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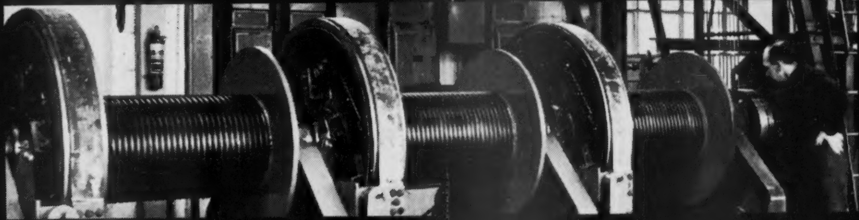

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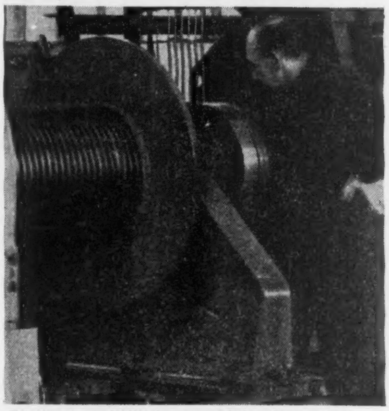
Trade and Industry

11 May 1979

Weekly news magazine of the Departments of Industry and Trade



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Trade and Industry
Incorporating the Board of Trade Journal
Volume 35 no. 6

Pages 233 to 280. 11 May 1979.

Price 50p. Every Friday.
Annual subscription including postage £34
Europe £37
Overseas (outside Europe) airmail £50
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Subscriptions: HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH
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ISSN 0006-5323

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Trade and Industry this week

BAe gains height

British Aerospace had a sales turnover last year of £894 million, an increase from £860 million in the previous year. Some £487 million or 55 per cent of the sales turnover was for export. This was announced in BAe's annual report and accounts for the year ended December 1978 published on Tuesday.

Covering the first full year of BAe as a single trading organisation, the accounts show that trading profits of £79 million were £4 million above the 1977 level. This was after making provision towards possible losses on termination of Iranian contracts.

Last year £11 million was provided out of trading profits for new project launching costs against £5 million in 1977. After this provision and loan interest and tax, net profit was £29 million. At the end of last year, the forward order book had reached £2,951 million, of which 69 per cent was for export, an increase of more than £650 million during the year.

In the report, BAe chairman Lord Beswick says that 1978 was 'A year of consolidation, product progress and profitable results.' Particularly creditable was a 29 per cent increase in output measured against the 1977 figures.

NEB shows £114m operating profit

The National Enterprise Board made an operating profit of £114 million in 1978, before deducting interest and extraordinary items. Turnover was £4.2 billion (1977 £3.5 billion), of which exports accounted for over 30 per cent.

Announcing the result in the annual report published on Monday, chairman Sir Leslie Murphy explained that performance had been stimulated both by an improved contribution from BL and an increased share of overall profits from other NEB investments. Although results varied from company to company, some 18 per cent of the 1978 operating profit came from this side of the business compared with 13 per cent in 1977.

The NEB's investment in companies, excluding BL and Rolls-Royce, showed a rate of return on total capital employed of about 11 per cent. This matched the achievements in 1977.

After allowing for interest of £70 million, taxation of £19 million, cost of redundancy payments £14 million and minority interest £5 million, there was a profit before extraordinary items of £6 million.

The NEB directly invested £355 million in 1978, bringing total funds invested to about £600 million. Aggregate investment, including the cost of investments inherited from the previous government, amounted to about £1,250 million at the end of the year.

Ministerial responsibilities announced

Department of Industry

Sir Keith Joseph

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, allocated on Tuesday the following ministerial responsibilities within the Department of Industry:

Lord Trenchard, Minister of State, will be primarily responsible for the private sector. His other responsibilities will include regional policy. He will be the department's spokesman in the House of Lords.

Adam Butler, Minister of State, will be responsible for aerospace; shipbuilding and shiprepairing; Post Office; steel (including private sector); Cable and Wireless; National Enterprise Board and its subsidiaries; and research and development.

David Mitchell, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, will assist Lord Trenchard. The secretary of state will have responsibility for small firms assisted by David Mitchell.

Michael Marshall, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State will assist Mr. Butler.

Department of Trade

John Nott

John Nott, Secretary of State for Trade and President of the Board of Trade, gave on Tuesday the following ministerial responsibilities within the Department of Trade:

Sally Oppenheim, Minister for Consumer Affairs, has special responsibility for consumer affairs and competition policy.

Cecil Parkinson, Minister for Trade, has special responsibility for overseas trade policy; commercial relations and tariffs; Export Credits Guarantee Department; and the British Overseas Trade Board.

Norman Tebbit, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, has special responsibility for civil aviation; marine and shipping policy; tourism, hotel and travel industries; and the newspaper, film and publishing industry.

Reginald Eyre, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, has special responsibility for companies and insurance supervision; insolvency service and Patents Office; and the distributive and service trades.

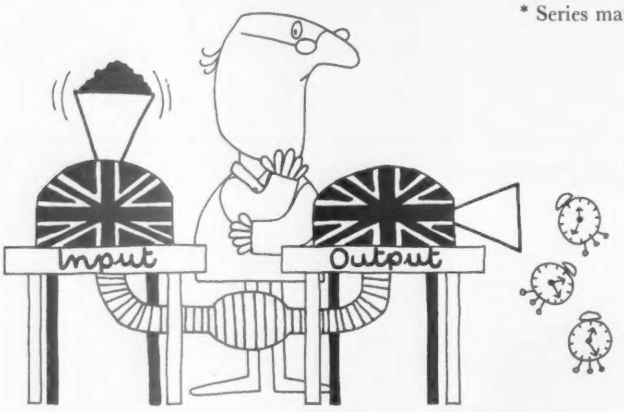
Gauge and tool SWP agrees programme

Agreement has been reached on the new gauge and tool industry sector working party (SWP) work programme, it was announced by the National Economic Development Office on Monday. The SWP will concentrate initially on the mould and die, specialised tooling and metrology products sectors of the industry – their status, opportunities and problems.

Two action groups have been set up to carry out the work – one dealing with press tools and large jigs and fictures, chaired by Fred Law, director of tooling at Pressed Steel Fisher and the other group dealing with moulds and dies, chaired by Herbert Plater, managing director of Malone Precision Tool Ltd. Both groups will bring together suppliers and customers as well as trade union and government representatives to tackle matters of direct concern to the particular products under consideration. A third group for metrology equipment, will be formed later this year.

Economic indicators at a glance

* Series marked with an asterisk are not seasonally adjusted.



Output

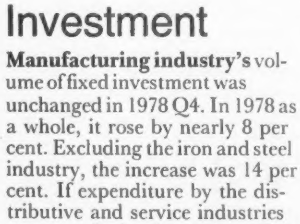
Gross domestic product, on the provisional output estimate, fell slightly in 1978 Q4 after rising sharply earlier in the year. In 1978 as a whole, output rose strongly by 3 per cent, with increased activity in the mining and quarrying industries accounting for about a quarter of the growth. Manufacturing output, however, rose by only ½ per cent in 1978.

Index of industrial production rebounded sharply in February following the settlement of the transport disputes. Manufacturing output returned to the December level. (The last two months' figures may not give a clear indication of the path of production because many of the component series measure deliveries rather than production and deliveries were more affected by the road haulage dispute.)

Consumers' expenditure

Consumers' expenditure, on the first preliminary estimate, rose in volume by ½ per cent in 1979 Q1 despite a 1½ per cent fall in retail sales. The rise was mainly due to a substantial increase in expenditure on fuel and light which is not covered by the retail sales index. Expenditure in the latest two quarters rose by ¾ per cent though it was 4½ per cent higher than a year earlier.

Retail sales. Revised figures for the volume of retail sales show that trade in both food and non-food shops in March was at about the level of last autumn following three months when retail sales appear to have been influenced by several special factors (income tax rebates and the pensioners' tax-free bonus in December and the lorry drivers' strike and bad weather in January and February.) In 1979 Q1 an increase in sales by food shops of 1 per cent was more than offset by a fall in sales by clothing, durable goods and other non-food shops. (Provisional April figure due to be published 14 May.)



¹Excluding Northern Ireland

Investment

Manufacturing industry's volume of fixed investment was unchanged in 1978 Q4. In 1978 as a whole, it rose by nearly 8 per cent. Excluding the iron and steel industry, the increase was 14 per cent. If expenditure by the distributive and service industries on assets for leasing to manufacturing industry is included, the estimated level in 1978 was about the same as the all-time peak in 1970.

Distributive and service industries' volume of fixed investment (excluding shipping) was 8 per cent higher in 1978 than in 1977.

The DoI investment intentions survey carried out in November/December confirms the results of previous surveys which indicated a further increase in 1979 in the volume of investment by both the manufacturing industries and the distributive and service industries (excluding shipping). For manufacturing industries, a rise of 4 to 8 per cent in 1979 is suggested by the present survey, with increases in most industry groups and especially in the textiles, leather and clothing group. Investment by manufacturing as a whole in 1980 may be slightly less than in 1979. In 1979 and probably in 1980 investment excluding the iron and steel industries is likely to change in line with the total. For the distributive and service industries, a rise of 3 to 7 per cent is expected in 1979 with a similar rise in 1980.

Labour

Unemployment (UK, excluding school leavers) fell sharply by 39 500 during April to 1 311 000 (5.5 per cent of all employees). The falls in the latest two months have a little more than offset the increases in January and February when the level was affected by the bad weather and transport disputes.

Unfilled vacancies (mainly for adults) notified to employment offices rose by 12 700 in April to 249 700 and in the latest three months were over 22 per cent higher than a year earlier.

Incomes

Real personal disposable income (RPDI) rose by 1½ per cent in 1978 Q4 giving a large increase of 6½ per cent in 1978 as a whole. The rise in 1978 followed falls in the previous three years.

Average gross earnings* (new series) rose in the year to February by 14.9 per cent but by around 13½ per cent if a lump-sum Post Office productivity payment paid in February is excluded. By February, average earnings increased by only a little more in the current pay round than over the same period a year ago, with 2.7 million workers having reached effective settlements as against 2.1 million last year. By April, 5 million workers had settled, about half those likely to be involved in major settlements notified to the Department of Employment.

Prices and costs

Wholesale price index* (provisional) for materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry rose sharply by 2¾ per cent in April reflecting the sharp increase in crude oil prices. In the latest three months the index rose by 3¾ per cent and was 8¾ per cent higher than a year earlier. (The index was falling in the latter half of 1977 and in early 1978.) The index for wholesale output prices rose by 1¼ per cent in April, with higher prices for petroleum products. In the latest three months the index rose by 3 per cent and was 9 per cent higher than a year earlier.

Retail prices index* rose by ¾ per cent in March and the year-on-year increase edged a little higher to 9.8 per cent. (April's index due to be published today, 11 May.)

Terms of trade. During 1978, export prices rose much faster than those of imports and the terms of trade index rose by almost 4½ per cent between the fourth quarters of 1977 and 1978.

UK competitiveness, measured by normalised unit labout costs, was worse in the first three quarters of 1978 than in the previous year. Much of the improvement experienced during 1976 when sterling was falling has now been eroded.

Companies

Gross trading profits of industrial and commercial companies, excluding those engaged in North Sea oil and gas activities and net of stock appreciation, rose by 14 per cent in 1978, much less than in 1977.

Liquidity of the (large) industrial and commercial companies replying to the DoI's company liquidity survey, having fallen appreciably since 1978 Q2, was still 5½ per cent higher at the end of 1978 than a year earlier. For manufacturing companies alone, the level of liquidity at the end of 1978 was about the same as a year earlier, still high by past standards.

Net borrowing requirement of industrial and commercial companies' was much the same in 1978 as in 1977.

Balance of payments

Current account of the balance of payments was in surplus by £398 million in 1978 Q4 and by £254 million in 1978 as a whole, slightly less than in 1977. The deficit on visible trade was £1,175 million in 1978 while the surplus on invisibles was £1,429 million, both figures much smaller than the corresponding ones for 1977. It is estimated that the current account was in balance in January

UK official reserves* fell by $480 million during April. The fall was more than accounted for by an early repayment to the International Monetary Fund by the government of $1,004 million plus a scheduled repayment of $81 million in respect of drawings on the IMF's oil facility.

Volume of imports and exports fell sharply in January as a result of the road haulage dispute. The trade figures for the five months to January were distorted by the effects of industrial disputes. Therefore, although the figures show that exports and imports fell by 3½ per cent and 2½ per cent respectively in the three months to January it is judged that the underlying trend in both cases remained upward. (The February and March trade figures are not yet available.

DoT's survey of short-term export prospects, based on replies received from 54 large exporting companies, suggests that the volume of UK exports will increase by 3 to 4 per cent in the first half of 1979 following a similar rise in the second half of 1978. Growth may continue at a similar rate in the third quarter. Respondents are expecting a somewhat faster rate of growth in their export prices during 1979 compared with last year. (The survey was conducted largely during January and February but it is likely that the effects of the industrial disputes are not fully reflected in the forecasts.)

Exchange rate

Effective sterling exchange* rate index rose strongly in April to average 66.9 for the month, nearly 3 per cent higher than in March and the highest level for three years. At the close on Thursday 3 May the index was 67.5.

Finance

Public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR) was £2.7 billion in 1978-79 Q3 and £6.6 billion in the first three quarters of the last financial year. The 'limit' for 1978-79 in £8.5 billion.

Domestic credit expansion was negative in the banking month to mid-March. The contraction of £0.3 billion was achieved by substantial sales of debt to the UK non-bank private sector with, exceptionally, a small surplus on the central government account. Bank lending to the private sector continued at a high level, however.

Sterling M3 fell by £0.4 billion (0.8 per cent) in March but in five months since mid-October it rose by about 4 per cent (10 per cent at an annual rate) compared with the guidelines of 8 to 12 per cent growth in the year to mid-October 1979.

Bank of England minimum lending rate (MLR) – 12 per cent, effective from 5 April.

More information

For a backrun of figures for some of these indicators see 'The economy: selected indicators', page 269. Inquiries on any of these indicators should be addressed to Economics and Statistics Division 4B, Departments of Industry, Trade, and Prices and Consumer Protection, Room 173, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 3453.

Exchange rates

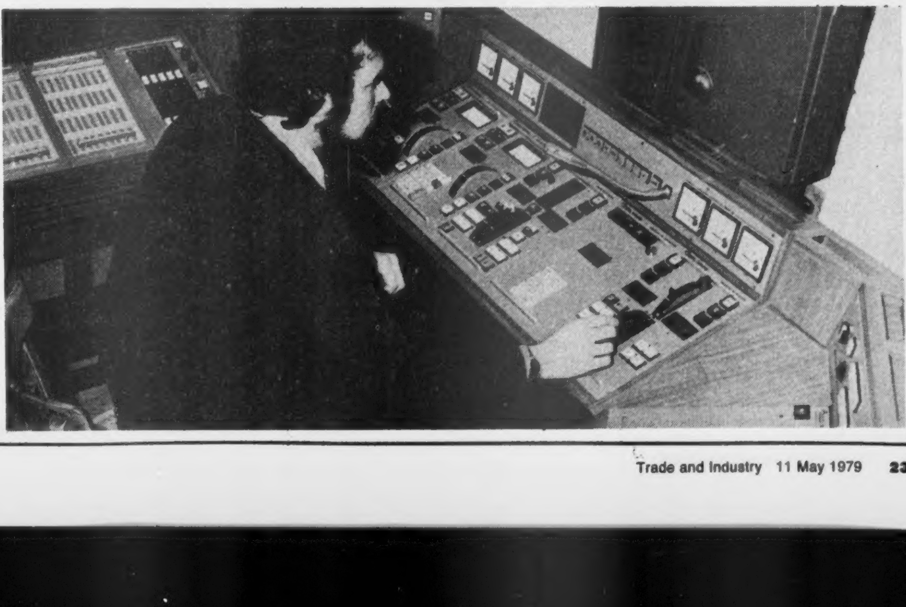
The bank note rates of exchange in London on 4 May are given below. Supplied by Thomas Cook Bankers Ltd, the rates are intended as a guide only and are subject to fluctuation. OECD countries are shown in bold.

		You buy at	You sell at
Afghanistan	Afghani	125	145
Andorra	(See France and Spain)	—	—
Antigua	E. Caribbean dollar	5.40	5.60
Argentina	Peso	2 300	2 800
Australia	**Dollar**	**1.8775**	**1.9375**
Austria	**Schilling**	**28.50**	**30.50**
Bahamas	Dollar	2.05	2.20
Bahrain	Dinar	0.805	0.84
Barbados	Dollar	3.98	4.31
Belgium	**Franc**	**63.75**	**67.25**
Belize	Dollar	4.20	4.75
Benin	CFA	455	475
Bermuda	Dollar	2.00	2.14
Bolivia	Peso	45	58
Botswana	Pula	1.90	2.10
Brazil	Cruzeiro	54	67
Brunei	Dollar	4.60	4.80
Cameroon	CFA	455	475
Canada	**Dollar**	**2.36**	**2.43**
Chile	Peso	73	87
China	Ranimba Yuan	Refer	Refer
Colombia	Peso	75	85
Costa Rica	Colon	18.50	22.50
Cyprus	Pound	0.71	0.75
Denmark	**Krone**	**10.92**	**11.42**
Dominica	E. Caribbean dollar	5.40	5.60
Ecuador	Sucre	53	65
Egypt	Pound	1.50	1.67
Eire	**Pound**	**1.01**	**1.05**
Fiji	Dollar	1.76	1.84
Finland	**Markka**	**8.28**	**8.63**
France	**Franc**	**8.95**	**9.35**
Germany, FR of	**Deutschmark**	**3.90**	**4.12**
Gibraltar	Pound	1.00	1.05
Greece	**Drachma**	**74.25**	**79.25**
Grenada	E. Caribbean dollar	5.40	5.60
Guyana	Dollar	9.25	Refer
Hong Kong	Dollar	10.22	10.65
Iceland	Krona	775	805
Indonesia	Rupiah	1 325	1 545
Iran	Rial	216	Refer
Iraq	Dinar	0.75	0.81
Israel	Pound	44.50	49.50
Italy (20 000 and smaller)	**Lira**	**1 720**	**1 805**
Japan	**Yen**	**470**	**495**
Jordan	Dinar	0.625	0.665
Korea	Won	1 250	1 450
Kuwait	Dinar	0.58	0.61
Lebanon	Livre	6.80	7.30
Liberia (See USA)		—	—
Libya	Dinar	1.20	Refer
Luxembourg (See Belgium)	**Franc**	—	—
Madeira (See Portugal)	Escudo	—	—
Malaysia	Dollar	4.64	4.86
Malta	Pound	0.73	0.76
Mauritius	Rupee	11.88	13.75
Mexico	Peso	42	51
Monaco (See France)	Franc	8.85	9.25
Netherlands	**Guilder**	**4.24**	**4.47**
New Zealand	**Dollar**	**1.92**	**2.01**
Nigeria	Naira	Refer	Refer
Norway	**Krone**	**10.62**	**11.07**
Oman	Rial	0.72	0.765
Pakistan	Rupee	18	25
Peru	Sol	425	575
Philippines	Piso	14.50	17.50
Portugal	**Escudo**	**96.00**	**101.00**
Qatar	Rial	8.00	8.35
Saudi Arabia	Rial	7.04	7.40
Seychelles	Rupee	12.77	13.25
Sierra Leone	Leone	2.25	2.50
Singapore	Dollar	4.48	4.67
South Africa	Rand	1.97	2.13
Spain	**Peseta**	**134.25**	**141.25**
Sweden	**Krona**	**9.03**	**9.43**
Switzerland	**Franc**	**3.54**	**3.76**
Syria	Pound	8.75	9.75
Taiwan	Dollar	Refer	Refer
Thailand	Baht	36	45
Trinidad and Tobago	Dollar	5.30	6.40
Turkey	**Lira**	**87**	**91**
Uganda	Shilling	Refer	Refer
United Arab Emirates	Dirham	8.00	8.35
USA	**Dollar**	**2.07**	**2.13**
Venezuela	Bolivar	8.80	9.90
Yemen Arab Republic	Rial	12	14
Yugoslavia	Dinar	42.75	44.75
Zambia	Kwacha	5.75	Refer

Where more than one rate applies to a currency, the rate given is that for small denomination notes.

Light shed on Czechoslovakian tv service

Rank Strand Electric Ltd's memory lighting control system undergoing final tests at the company's Brentford works before shipment to Slovanska Televize of Bratislava. The system can be adapted to meet the needs of television studies of any size. Since its introduction in 1974 it has been sold to many countries world wide.



Home news

Workplace health risks unit set up

The Health and Safety Executive has formed a unit to co-ordinate a searching professional scrutiny of information available on many of the substances used at work which could carry a health risk. It will assess their effect on health, for the day-to-day use of the executive to help determine what needs closer attention. The assessment will also help in the work of the Health and Safety Commission, and its advisory committees, which represent employer and exployee interests, in setting acceptable standards for exposure at the workplace.

The unit, the occupational health information, data appraisal and epidemiology branch, has been formed largely from existing manpower resources. It will be headed by Dr David Douglas, since 1978 a deputy director of medical services. Its work will cover chemical substances used in the workplace, and physical agents such as dust, noise and vibrations, but its remit excludes ionising and most non-ionising radiation, whose risks will continue to be assessed by the national radiological protection board.

The unit brings together a team of experts in various disciplines from within the Health and Safety Executive. They will have access to the most modern computerised data bases available on toxic substances, through the executive's library, which is plugged into international computerised data retrieval systems. Also available for more systematic co-ordination will be information unique to the executive, including material from surveys and other work carried out by the executive's employment medical advisers and health and safety inspectors.

To help in the evaluation of potential risks to health, some present and future unit staff will receive additional special training in toxicology. Other sections of the unit will specialise in assessing the health impact of dusts, allergens or sensitisers, such as isocyanates, and physical factors such as noise and vibration.

The epidemiological section of the unit, together with statistical experts, will be responsible for surveys of the workplace health causes of death or serious illness. These will be carried out in liaison with field medical staff and, where appropriate, in co-operation with industry.

HSE policy statement on acrylonitrile exposure

The Health and Safety Commission has issued a policy statement on the exposure of persons at work to acrylonitrile.

Having been advised by its advisory committee on toxic substances which reviewed all the available toxicological and epidemiological evidence, the commission accepts that exposure to low levels of acrylonitrile is proving to be carcinogenic to experimental animals, and in the light of current epidemiological evidence, which supports rather than contradicts the animal evidence, considers it would be prudent to regard acrylonitrile as a potential human carcinogen. The commission agreed that exposure to this substance should be reduced to considerably below the current threshold limit value (TLV) of 20 parts per million in air (ppm), 8 hour time weighted average (twa).

The commission agreed that exposure to acylonitrile should be kept as low as is reasonably practicable and that by about 1981 the control limit should be reduced to 2 ppm, 8 hour twa. The commission considers that meanwhile there should be a steady progression towards this limit and that interim control limits should be set of 5 ppm, 8 hour twa, immediately and 4 ppm, 8 hour twa, in the first quarter of 1980. A substantial number of operations are in practice already generally achieving a level of 2 ppm, 8 hour twa, and the commission and executive expect these practices to be maintained.

Since there are insufficient data on which to make a confident prediction as to a safe level of exposure, the commission accepts that a hazard may still exist at current levels of exposure and recommends that industry, in order to comply with section 2 of the Health and Safety at Work, Etc, Act 1974, should, in addition to meeting specific limits, reduce all exposures to as low a level as is reasonably practicable.

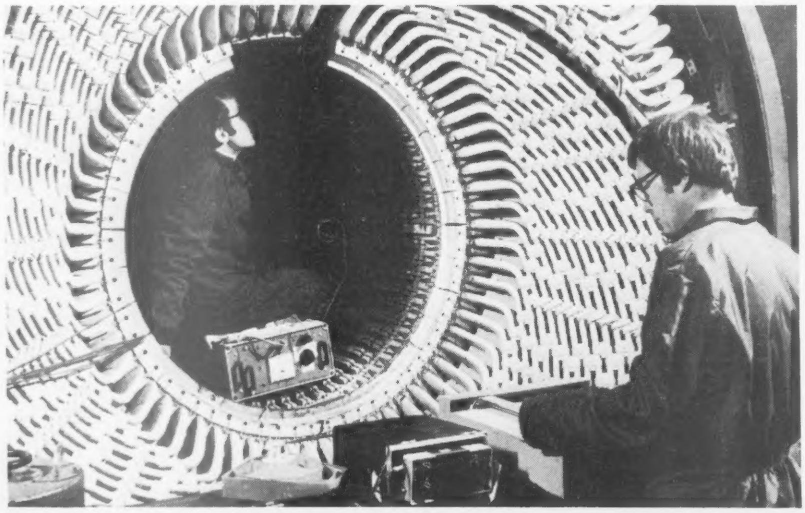
The commission accepted the opinion of its advisory committee which had considered whether there was a need for a short period concentration limit. The committee had agreed that adverse effects consequent upon exposure to acrylonitrile would be best controlled by the 8 hour twa limit combined with the obligation to keep all exposures as low as is reasonably practicable and that a short period limit would not afford additional protection. Monitoring to test compliance with a short-term limit would divert effort that would be better employed in testing and achieving compliance with the 8 hour twa limit. The committee emphasised, however, that short period measurements could be of great value in achieving control and in deciding on the need for respiratory protection. In this connection they noted that acute irritation would be unlikely to be experienced at concentrations below about 40 ppm and for this reason subjective effects could not be used to give adequate warning of impending danger.

Reduction in exposure

The Health and Safety Commission recognises that reduction in exposure should normally be achieved by the use of engineering and process controls and by the control of working methods but accepts that in some cases it may be necessary to obtain protection by the provision and wearing of personal pro-

Electromagnetic repair tests save time and money

Personnel from CEGB's Central Electricity Research Laboratory test the core of a 120 Mw turbine generator in Northfleet power station following repairs by Dynamo and Motor Repairs of Wembley, Middlesex. This is a prototype test developed by the laboratory in which defects in the core plate insulation are detected electromagnetically. It results in considerable saving in time and money.



tective equipment. It recommends that, where necessary, firms should forthwith draw up schedules of work detailing the engineering and other remedial action to meet the above requirements. It has asked the Health and Safety Executive to provide guidance on the provision of personal protective equipment and on suitable methods for sampling and analysis of atmospheric concentrations of acrylonitrile against which compliance would be judged.

Review of policy

The commission has asked its advisory committee to review this policy and the implementation of it as further information becomes available. The Health and Safety Commission welcomes the information that the executive, in conjunction with the Chemical Industries Association, is carrying out a cohort mortality study of acrylonitrile workers, the initial population for which was 1138 polymerisation process workers who were first exposed to acrylonitrile in 1968 or earlier. The executive is to ensure that adequate identification details are maintained on all current acrylonitrile workers so as to facilitate future epidemiological studies.

Certificates of competency

A new volume of syllabuses and specimen papers for examinations for certificates of competency of merchant navy deck officers was published on 2 May. The Department of Trade examinations for deck officers' certificates will from 1 March next year be based on the syllabuses contained in the new book.

'Examinations for certificates of competency in the merchant navy: deck syllabuses and specimen papers' is published by HMSO, price £1.75, and is available from stationery office bookshops or through booksellers.

NEB to back Thermax expansion in Co Durham

The National Enterprise Board and Thermax Ltd have agreed in principle on an NEB investment of £700,000 to help expand the operations of Thermax, the largest privately-owned automotive and appliance safety glass manufacturer in Europe, based at Bishop Auckland, Co Durham. It is expected that at least 100 new job opportunities for both skilled and semi-skilled workers will be created over the next few years.

Thermax occupies two modern factories on the Greenfield trading estate at Bishop Auckland and presently employs approximately 200 people. Its business has grown rapidly since the company's formation five years ago. The NEB investment will take the form of £350,000 preference shares and a £350,000 medium term loan.

The company manufactures a range of safety glass cooker doors, control panels and splash-backs for domestic appliances, as well as flat safety glass for tractors and caravans. It is estimated that, at present, the company supplies a substantial proportion of the UK domestic requirements for these specialist products.

A new growth area for Thermax is forecast to come from the continually rising demand for the supply of curved safety glass and heated rear windscreens from the motor vehicle industry. Additional productive capacity is being provided by the commissioning of an extra plant to cope with this demand.

Gerry Connolly, NEB's director for the north-east, said on 1 May that the investment was based on the new technology utilised by Thermax in attacking the growth markets for specialist glass products in both the domestic appliance and automotive industries. The company had a remarkable record of profitable growth since it was founded in 1974.

New Sumburgh terminal opens this month

The new Wils Ness terminal will be open to passengers at the end of this month. The building for oil-related traffic at Sumburgh airport was handed over on 1 May to the Civil Aviation Authority by the contractors. It is one year since the contract was let for runway and apron works, and nine months since the second contract was let for the terminal building itself.

Duncan Macpherson CAA general manager Scottish aerodromes explained that the handover of the terminal building would effectively separate the oil-related traffic from the existing terminal area, substantially easing the congestion now experienced by operators and passengers. The remainder of the new building and all external works were scheduled for completion later in the summer.

The development of an entirely new heliport with new helicopter strip and parking, fixed wing parking, roads and a new terminal building, costing in total nearly £18 million, was conceived in December 1977 when design consultants were appointed.

In financing the project, CAA has been assisted by a grant of up to £2.4 million from the European regional development fund and by a loan of £10.8 million from the European Investment Bank. The completion of the Wils Ness terminal area will bring the total cost of developing Sumburgh airport since 1974 to some £32 million.

Record 5m air holidays for 1979 authorised

Britain's air travel organisers are authorised to offer during 1979 more than 5 million air holidays according to statistics issued on 26 April by the Civil Aviation Authority. At a record 5.3 million holidays that is an increase of 1.1 million or 26 per cent over the number of holidays authorised in 1978, when the figure was 4.2 million. More than two thirds of the holidays, 3.7 million, are accounted for by the top 24 tour operators.

The gross revenue from these holidays during 1979 is estimated to be £813 million. This is an increase of more than 40 per cent over the 1978 estimated figure of £574 million, reflecting the increased cost of holidays as well as the additional number of people travelling.

Mandatory standard proposed on inflation accounting

A proposal that refined and polished 'Hyde guidelines' on current cost accounting should become mandatory for large companies in addition to historical cost accounts is being made by the Accounting Standards Committee.

If an exposure draft, ED 24, of an accounting standard on CCA, which the committee published on 30 April, achieves general acceptance, the committee hopes that it could be made effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 1980.

ED 24 contains a very brief proposed core standard. It is accompanied by guidance notes which suggest practical methods for implementing CCA. The guidance notes do not form part of the standard and will not be mandatory. The committee believes that this approach will provide the flexibility which is necessary at this time of development.

The draft proposes that, with certain exceptions, the standard should be mandatory for all listed companies and for other entities with an annual turnover of £5 million or more. It is estimated that about 5500 businesses would fall within this scope. Increasing the turnover threshold to £20 millions would reduce the number to about 2900.

The main technical differences between ED 24 and the voluntary Hyde guidelines, published in November 1977, are that ED 24 goes somewhat further in introducing separate from the 'gearing adjustment' an adjustment called the 'monetary working capital adjustment': calling for a current cost balance sheet (which may be in summary form); and calling for current cost earnings per share to be shown by listed companies.

ED 24 has a 6-month exposure period. Closing date for comments is 31 October. The committee is asking especially for views on the monetary working capital adjustment; the turnover threshold of £5 millions; and the problems of particular industries.

Prolonged inflation has shown that traditional historical cost accounts have serious defects. No agreed solution has been reached anywhere in the world as to what should replace or supplement them. Nevertheless the committee recognises the important need for an accounting standard in present circumstances.

The current cost accounting system in ED 24 is based on the concept that current cost profit is arrived at only after providing for the maintenance of the current cost of the net operating assets of the business. In accounting terms, the net operating assets can be said to represent the operating capability of the business and current cost profit is arrived at only after providing for maintenance of the operating capability of the business. This is in considerable contrast to the concept of historical cost (HC) profit which is arrived at after maintaining the shareholders' subscribed capital and retained profit in terms of historical pounds sterling.

HC is a system of accounting with more than 100 years of experience and development behind it. Despite its serious defects it would be unrealistic to contemplate its replacement by any other new and relatively untried system. Accordingly it is now proposed in ED 24 that annual accounts shall include current cost information as well as historical cost accounts. This current cost information will include at least a current cost profit and loss account (starting with HC profit and showing adjustments) and a summarised current cost balance sheet.

Copies of ED 24 – Exposure Draft on Current Cost Accounting, price 75p, and 'Guidance Notes on Current Cost Accounting' price £1.75p, post free, are available from the Publications Department, PO Box 433, Chartered Accountants' Hall, Moorgate Place, London, EC2P 2BJ.

Tourist traffic decreased at Dover by bad weather

Owing to the late Easter holiday, passenger figures at the Port of Dover for March were substantially lower than 1977 by nearly 24 per cent for all passengers and 31.5 per cent for cars and other tourist vehicles. This, combined with the bad weather conditions in January and February, has led to an overall decrease in tourist traffic for the year to date. These figures were announced by the Dover Harbour Board on 30 April.

Meanwhile, the number of ferry and hovercraft services continued to rise over the period by 7 per cent and 51 per cent respectively.

PO film takes top award

A Post Office film featuring Datapost – the high-speed delivery service – has received a major award at a prestigious American trade film festival.

Just two months after its completion, the 21-minute production, 'Farewell by problem', has been given the silver screen award in the sales category at the twelfth US industrial film festival in Chicago.

Datapost is a high-speed delivery service specially designed for businessmen. It operates throughout the UK and to 15 countries abroad. Delivery is overnight within the British Isles and ranges overseas from same-day delivery in New York (via Concorde) to three days for countries in the Far East.

The film shows what happens to a newly-promoted assistant despatch manager given the responsibility of getting a large consignment of model dresses to Amsterdam by next morning.

The audience is given a glimpse of all stages of Datapost – from its despatch, through various methods of transport, arrival by air in Holland and final delivery – and true to its aim, Datapost delivers on time. 'Farewell my problem' emphasises that the Datapost service is not limited to the transmission of data but is designed to handle the majority of items that modern industry needs to despatch with speed and reliability.

Released in 16 mm and on video tape, the film is available on restricted loan, free of charge, from the Royal Mail Film Library, 23 Frances Road, Windsor, Berks SL4 3AF.

Shopfitters' design prize award

The first-floor leisure wear department at Austin Reed in Regent Street, London, which has won for Robert Byron the National Association of Shopfitters their design prize. The association sponsored the competition, which was organised in association with the Design Council, to encourage good design associated with the type of work undertaken by shopfitters for subjects such as a shop, department store, bank, airport, museum, hotel or restaurant.

Normal service resumes on company registrations

Arrangements have been made for a resumption of normal service at Companies Registration Office following settlement of a pay dispute.

Priority will be given, initially, to clearing the work on hand, which includes about 200 000 applications to inspect company records, 30 000 applications for the approval of company names and 10 000 company formations.

The search rooms in London and Cardiff are now open to the public but, for the time being, the number of search applications which can be accepted must be limited and will be subject to delay.

In the case of requests for approval of company names and for the registration of documents relating to incorporation or change of name, applications will be processed in general in the order in which they were received; inquiries about such cases should be directed to Cardiff (0222) 388 588 ext. 2650/2658. Further applications will be processed as soon as the immediate backlog has been cleared, but applicants are advised that there will be considerable delay.

Airport traffic figures in March up on last year

Nearly 3 million passengers used the British Airports Authority's seven airports in March, representing a 4.6 per cent increase on the same month in 1977. This relatively low overall growth was due to the Easter holiday period falling in April this year rather than March as in 1978.

In the south east this resulted in Heathrow (up 1.5 per cent) and Gatwick (up 10 per cent) recording increases in traffic below recent trends. But Gatwick's total of 532 000 passengers showed a 43 per cent rise in March 1977, when Easter last fell in April.

In Scotland, where Easter reduces traffic through the loss of business passengers, the overall increase was 14 per cent. Glasgow and Edinburgh had rises of 20 and 17 per cent respectively while Prestwick's 13 per cent growth showed a considerable improvement on recent trends. At Aberdeen fixed wing (up 6 per cent) and helicopter traffic (down 11.7 per cent) were both affected by a North Sea oil workers' strike.

Air transport movements rose by 7.5 per cent overall (4.4 per cent excluding Airlink Helicopter flights), but there was a 14 per cent drop in general aviation movements.

March was a mixed month for cargo. Drops of 3 and 32 per cent at Gatwick and Stansted with Heathrow's 17 per cent rise and the 40 per cent increase at Prestwick produced a growth of 11 per cent for all seven airports.

Clearance of merger proposals

It was announced last week that the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection had decided, on the information before him, not to refer the following mergers to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973:

Fisons Ltd and AAgrunol BV
Aetna Life and Casualty Company and American Re-insurance Company
Leamington Spa Building Society and Brierley Hill and Stourbridge Inc Building Society
The Airways Pension Scheme and The Debenture Corporation Ltd
British and Commonwealth Shipping Company Ltd and Common Brothers Ltd
The UK interests of Cooper Industries Inc and the UK interests of Gardner-Denver Company
Ahead of Hair Ltd and certain assets of Steiner Ltd
Hambros Group Ltd and Collett, Dickenson, Pearce International Ltd
EMI Ltd and United Artists Records Ltd

Not a seat but a springboard

Winston Churchill 1942.

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For further details contact:

David Heard, A.R.I.C.S., A.R.V.A.,
Chief Estates Officer,
Basildon Development Corporation,
Gifford House, Basildon, Essex SS13 2EX.
Telephone: Basildon (0268) 553261.
Answer Service after 5.15 p.m. — Basildon 553377.

BASILDON MEANS BUSINESS

Clinch a deal at Earls Court.

All kinds of businessmen will be getting together at Earls Court from May 13–16. The reason? The Sunday Times Business to Business Exhibition. It's a golden opportunity to make the right contacts.

Cut out the complimentary ticket below and get in free.

In addition, the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry is presenting a series of business seminars – phone 01-248 4444 ext. 118 for details.

There's a great deal waiting for you at The Sunday Times Business to Business Exhibition. Come and clinch it.

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Sunday 13 May to Wednesday 16 May 1979,
Earls Court Exhibition Centre, Old Brompton Road, London SW5.

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Hyndburn Borough Council

Degree day service: figures for April

Degree day figures for April, published by the Department of Energy, are shown in the table. This service is designed to help industry and commerce improve the efficiency with which space heating systems are used.

The figures are a record of the extent and length of time in a particular month that the external temperature fell below a base figure of 15.5 degrees C (60 degrees F). Because this affects the amount of fuel needed to provide a given level of space heating the figures can be used to check on the efficiency of heating systems. By comparing the amount of fuel used with the number of degree days in monthly periods of different years, energy managers and others can monitor the performance of heating plant and operate it more economically.

Free booklet

Detailed information about the system is contained in a free booklet *Degree Days* (no. 7 in the Fuel Efficiency series) available from the Library, Department of Energy, Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1P 4QJ, tel. 01-211 3394. It explains the theory and practice of using the figures and contains a map showing the locations of the 17 Meteorological Office stations and the regions covered.

Bankruptcy records for England and Wales

Details of bankruptcies in England and Wales are maintained in a public search room at Room 901, Thomas More Building, Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2JY.
Searches can be made personally or by an agent and a fee of 25p in respect of each bankruptcy inquiry is payable at the time.

April degree days (base temperature 15.5 degrees C)

Region	Calculated average for Apr 1957-77	1978 Apr	1979 Apr
Thames Valley	200	246	217
South East	228	271	246
Southern	217	260	227
South West	201	238	208
Severn Valley	213	264	223
Midland	236	285	252
West Pennines	225	258	238
North West	241	265	260
Borders	262	305	278
North East	237	284	253
East Pennines	220	275	239
East Anglia	235	279	252
West Scotland	239	278	256
East Scotland	257	302	274
North East Scotland	274	309	276
Wales	232	269	269
Northern Ireland	240	273	263
Squires Gate	234	284	253
Watnall	236	284	249
Tynemouth	254	306	273

Maff report on R&D

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food's annual report on research and development in 1977 describes the progress of the commissioning of research and the conclusions of the reviews of commissioned research.

The report, published on 3 May, shows the funds made available by the ministry during 1977-78 for R&D in the areas of agriculture, fisheries and food, and refers to the developments of the national programmes for R&D in these areas.

Copies of the report are available from HMSO at £2.00 (£2.12 including post).

DoI advance factories

Hartlepool and Sunderland

Work has started on an advance factory of 1350 m² for the Department of Industry at Brenda Road, Hartlepool. The factory is of the terrace unit type and is divisible into four individual units of 340 m² each. The premises should be ready for occupation in November 1979.

Inquiries regarding purchase or lease should be addressed to the Regional Director, Department of Industry, Northern Region, Stanegate House, Groat Market, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 1YN tel. 0632 24722.

Industrial & Commercial Property

Plant and Machinery

Valuations Sales

UK and Overseas

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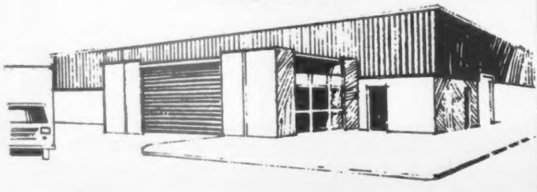
incorporating
Leopold Farmer & Sons

London 01-405 8411
Leeds 0532 457356
Birmingham 021-236 5736



Government sales

16 May 1979 – Miscellaneous

Location:
Auctioneers' premises

Auctioneers:
Woolland Son and Manico (Dept L), Kinterbury House, St Andrew's Cross, Plymouth (0752 69292)

Stores lying in the South West including clothing and textiles, furniture and householdware, watches, clocks and binoculars, photographic equipment, machine and hand tools, electrical and MT spares, Bedford truck, double decker buses and many other items.

23 May 1979 – Miscellaneous

Location:
Hilltop Motor Hotel, London Road, Carlisle

Auctioneers:
Harrison and Hetherington (Dept L), Borderway Mart, Rosehill, Carlisle (0228 26292)

Stores lying at Carlisle and elsewhere comprising clothing and webbing, machine and hand tools, photographic equipment, furniture, crockery, electrical items, Avometers, clocks, watches, compasses, paint and many other items.

Catalogues, which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times etc, are available from the auctioneer from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale, price 40p, postage 15p.

New publications

Characteristics of a post-industrial society

Various books and articles have appeared over the last decade or two, describing our present social system as a 'post-industrial society'. We now have a collection of papers on this topic given at an international symposium in Uppsala introduced by editor Bo Gustafsson, professor of economic history there, but the actual definition of this socio-economic development remains somewhat elusive. Two trends are held to characterise it: the growth of service industries and of white collar employment, and the expansion of the public sector.

As the majority of the contributors are Scandinavian economists, and economic historians, the commentary that ensues derives largely from Scandinavian experience, though Professor Alec Nove of Glasgow University makes an interesting excursion into recent developments in east European economics. The appeal tends to fall between the two stools of the grand theory, on the one hand, and the purely descriptive, on the other. Each paper is followed by a stimulating comment from another expert in the field, and, at the back, there is a 40-page appendix describing the expansion of the public sector in post-war Sweden.

Those with an interest in the fundamental economic aspects and trends of contemporary society, and especially the direction of change in both the east and western economic systems, will find this a stimulating if selective contribution to the literature.

Post-industrial society:proceedings of an international symposium; edited by Bo Gustafsson. Croom Helm, 1979. 238 pages. £9.95 (ISBN 0 85664 661 X).

Tariff quotas analysed

The current trend of support for tariff preferences and quotas as the key to aiding economic progress among developing countries makes Michael Rom's recent analysis of tariff quotas a most welcome addition to the literature.

Tariff quotas allow duty-free entry for goods up to a point; beyond that a set level of import duties is re-imposed. And, given that the post-war history of trade liberalisation shows that even the most liberal-minded baulk at unqualified free trade, one is left wondering at the relative neglect of the tariff quota, a sophisticated instrument of trade control well-suited to the current cautious approach to free trade.

Dr Rom analyses the forms and purposes of tariff quotas, and goes on to consider them in relation to the general agreement on tariffs and trade (Gatt). He then turns to the practical application of tariff quotas, with detailed examples. The problems of implementing non-discriminatory tariff quotas are, he shows, very real: if quotas were awarded on a first-come-first-served basis one importer could obtain the whole of the cheap quota; but if they were administered on a basis of historical market shares, any newcomer would be discriminated against; then there is the question of surveillance of ports of entry to determine when one quota is full and whether the full tariff rate should apply. But examples of systems working in the United States and EEC suggest at least two solutions – computerised monitoring and 'automatic' import licensing.

Dr Rom's study has gathered together a vast quantity of useful information on tariff quotas and their application in the 1970s and should make an important contribution to the literature on the international trade system.

The role of tariff quotas in commercial policy, by Michael Rom. Macmillan for the Trade Policy Research Centre, 1979. 258 pages. £12.00 (ISBN 0 333 17638 3).

Other publications of interest

Limited space allows us to review only a few of the many business publications which reach us every week. Among some of the more interesting recent arrivals are the following, which may be obtained either from the publishers or from local booksellers:

Chemfacts France. Chemical Data Services, IPC Industrial Press Ltd, Dorset House, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LU. November 1978. £40.00. (ISBN 0 617 00260 6).

Chemfacts Italy, Chemical Data Services. 1979. £40.00. (ISBN 0 617 00300 9).

Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act, with annotations by Brian Bercusson. (Current Law Statutes Reprints) Sweet and Maxwell, 1979. £3.50. (ISBN 0 421 23610 8).

The Engineer Buyers Guide 1979. Morgan Grampian Book Co Ltd, 30 Calderwood Street, London SE18 6QH. £9.00.

Expenses and benefits of directors and higher-paid employees: a guide to recent legislation, by John Staddon. London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 69 Cannon Street, London EC4N 5AB. 1979. £6.00 (to non-members). £4.50 (to members).

International directory of published market research. 3rd ed. British Overseas Trade Board/Arlington Management Publications Ltd, 1979. Available from: International Directory of Published Market Research, BOTB, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU. £12.75. (ISBN 0 906 616 00 X).

An investigation into crane accidents: their causes and repair costs, by A. J. Butler. Building Research Establishment, Garston, Watford, WD2 7JR. 1978. Free.

OECD Economic Surveys (Available from HMSO)
  France. February 1979. £1.50. (ISBN 92 64 11887 X).
  Netherlands. March 1979. £1.50. (ISBN 92 64 11 907 8).
  United Kingdom. March 1979. £1.50. (ISBN 92 64 11908 6).

Regional problems and policies in the European Community: a bibliography. Vol II. Saxon House, 1979. £20.00 (ISBN 0 566 00230 2). Covers Belgium, France, Denmark, Ireland, Netherlands.

Tourism, growth and London accommodation. The British Tourist Authority, 64 St James's Street, London SW1A 1NF. April 1979. £1.50. (ISBN 0 7095 0141 2).

Multilingual commerce

In the business world today, it is becoming increasingly necessary to have some basic knowledge of commercial terminology in several languages – so the idea of a multilingual commercial dictionary covering English (including American English), French, German, Spanish, Italian and Portuguese in a handy paperback format appears an admirable one.

At first glance the Pan 'Multilingual commercial dictionary' looks as if it should provide just the basic type of information that would be required – informative to the student or beginner and valuable 'first-aid' for the more advanced user. But on closer examination it is difficult to see precisely whom it is aimed at.

There are no explanations of nuances, nor any indication that a term such as 'French' might not be equally valid in France, Switzerland, Belgium and Quebec. Also although someone with a good knowledge of French would expect to find the composite adjective 'sans but lucratif' entered under 's', beginners would be lost, even if they could recognise such a complex group of words. A major advantage of a single A-Z arrangement should be that terminology can be traced in any language, but if users can't distinguish, say, Spanish from Portuguese, they are going to have their work cut out making use of this dictionary.

Of course, most of us would just love a dictionary, which is pocket-sized and cheap, reliable in its special subjects, up-to-date and multilingual, but even in today's computer age perhaps it is too much to expect to find all this in a single volume.

A multi-lingual commercial dictionary. Pan Books, 1978. Various paging; paperback £1.95 (ISBN 0 330 25436 7).

European patent licensing: the issues

Patent licensing in Europe has come under close scrutiny from the directorate of the European commission responsible for competition policy. And the idea for a new book on the subject was born in the conflict between, on the one hand, the commission, trying to develop its community licensing policy, and, on the other, the practitioners of licensing in industry.

Opening with a brief history of European and wider international attempts at co-operation in industrial property matters, B. I. Cawthra, who is director of the legal division of the European Patent Office, goes on to discuss the statutes relevant to licensing in the UK, the United States and the EEC. His

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Trade and Industry

Departmental publications not sold through HMSO

This list includes material issued by the Departments of Industry, Trade, Prices and Consumer Protection, and Energy; the Monopolies and Mergers Commission; the Office of Fair Trading, and the Price Commission which was notified to the compiler during April.

Department of Industry

Technology Reports Centre

Dialtech user manual: amendment lists nos. 2 and 3. [1979.]
Available to Dialtech subscribers only, from: Department of Industry, Technology Reports Centre, Station Square House, St Mary Cray, Orpington, Kent BR5 3RF.

Department of Trade

British Overseas Trade Board

Hints to exporters series (price £1 plus 20p p & p each):
Haiti. 1979/80. 36 pages.
Jordan. 1979/80. 52 pages.
Republic of Korea. 1979/80. 52 pages.
Malaysia and Brunei. 1979/80. 68 pages.
Spain (including the Canary Islands). 1979/80. 60 pages.
Trinidad and Tobago. 1979/80. 48 pages.

Marketing consumer goods in West Germany. 1979. vii, 38 pages. £3 plus 30p p & p.
Available in the UK only, from: BOTB, Publications Sales Unit, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU.

Commercial relations and exports division

Correction to list published in 13 April issue:
Code of conduct for companies with interests in South Africa: reports published in respect of the period up to 30 June 1978.
These reports were produced by the Commercial Relations and Exports Division, not the Companies Division.

Marine division

Historic wrecks: the role of the Department of Trade. 1979. 9 pages plus annexes.
Department of Trade, Marine Library, Room G7, Sunley House, 90-93 High Holborn, London WC1V 6LP.

Personal survival at sea. 1979. 12 pages.
Available to UK merchant and fishing fleets only, from: Department of Trade, Marine Survey Service, Sunley House, 90-93 High Holborn, London WC1V 6LP.

Queen's Awards Office

The Queen's awards for export and technology 1979: notes on publicity for holders of the Queen's awards. [1979.] 8 pages.
Available to applicants for the Queen's Awards only, from: Queen's Awards Office, Williams National House, 11-13 Holborn Viaduct, London EC1A 1EL.

Departments of Industry, Trade, and Prices and Consumer Protection

Common services

Economics and statistics division

Monthly review of external trade statistics, no. 42, March 1979. [150 pages.] £3.00.
BOTB, Publications Sales Unit, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU.

Establishment management services and manpower division

Operational research unit

ORUR 1/79. **A manpower planning model for the science group,** by J. P. Corneille, S. P. McCarthy and J. C. D'Cruz. 1979. [24 pages.]
Departments of Industry, Trade, and Prices and Consumer Protection, Operational Research Unit, Room 748, Sanctuary Buildings, 16-20 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB.

Libraries: bibliographical services

Additions to libraries. Weekly. Available on controlled circulation.

Department of Energy

Energy management. March 1979. 8 pages.
Department of Energy, Energy Management, Room 1395, Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1P 4QJ.

central theme is the EEC's draft regulation on patent licensing (referred to as the 'block exemption regulation'), a fourth revised draft text of which was produced by the commission in March this year. The commission is seeking through the draft regulation to establish the basic rules of patent licensing, and its content is the subject of a continuing disagreement between the commission and the industrial interests involved in patent licensing. The book discusses all the contentious issues, including exclusive licenses, export bans, field-of-use restrictions, tying clauses, no-challenge clauses, and no-competition clauses, against the background of recent court decisions.

Proposing an alternative approach to that taken by the commission, the author sets out his version of a draft regulation, consisting of a single article listing clauses which should be allowed in patent licensing agreement without notification to the commission. Other chapters and sections cover the effect of the commission's patent licensing regulations on the transfer of technology to the developing nations.

The work deals very much with current problems and is therefore of great value to anyone wanting to know what is going on now. But the text was completed in August 1978 and is already somewhat out-of-date: it does not take into account changes made in the third or fourth revised drafts of the commission's regulation, nor can it consider the final version, which is due to be adopted late this year or in 1980. However, the book is clearly written, it gives a good account of the issues, and contains a background of all the relevant statutes, regulations, precedent cases, and points of contention, which will justify its purchase as a good source of information and reference.

Patent licensing in Europe, by B. I. Cawthra. Butterworths, 1978. xix, 256 pages. £16.00 (ISBN 0 406 14840 6).

Publications for review

Selection of publications for review on this page does not necessarily reflect the views of the government, nor do the opinions expressed. Inquiries and submissions for review should be sent to *Trade and Industry*, New Publications Page, Room LG 17A, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 4136.

Technology news

NPL tackles microcircuit problems

Microelectronics, like virtually every other manufactured product, relies fundamentally on reliable measurements for process and quality control. With its extensive experience in fine engineering measurement technology, the Department of Industry's National Physical Laboratory (NPL) at Teddington has embarked on a new programme of research which will tackle some of the specific problems arising in microcircuit manufacture. Among problems being considered are measurement of the widths of narrow lines, the flatness of silicon wafers and the thickness of photo-resist layers.

The measurement demands of the microcircuit industries are quite exceptionally severe. Take, for example, the dimensional metrology requirements. Most microcircuits, including microprocessors, are built up of several layers of electrical conductors, insulators and semiconductors, with each layer bearing an intricate pattern of components and connectors. With the high levels of miniaturisation currently achieved, individual connectors may be only five micrometres wide, calling for a positional accuracy of around half a micrometre when superimposing successive layers during manufacture. To put this figure in perspective, half a micrometre is just one wavelength of visible light, or about one thousandth of a typical motor car's spark-plug gap.

The length standards maintained and disseminated by NPL provide the essential basic references which allow such stringent tolerances to be achieved. The importance of having national measurement standards to serve as the ultimate reference is made clear when it is remembered that different stages of a microcircuit's manufacture may well be carried out in different factories, perhaps many miles apart.

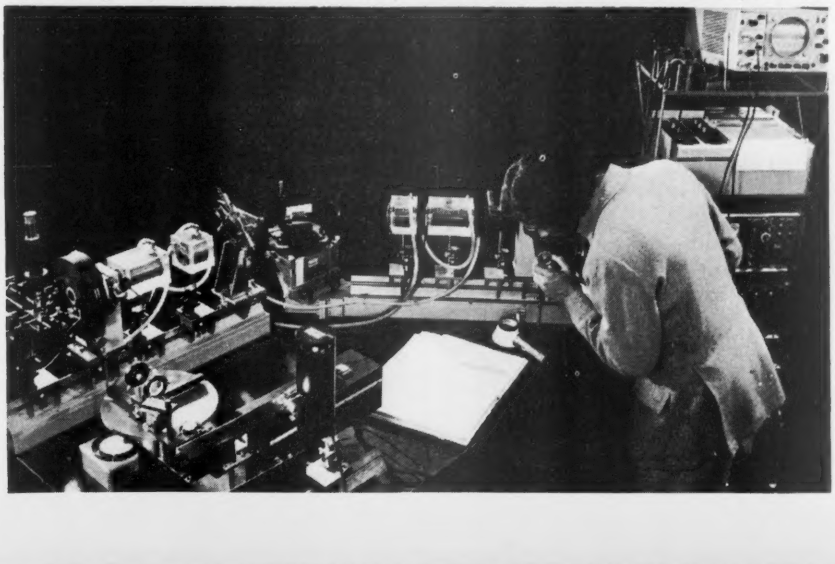
The maintenance of length standards of appropriate accuracy is not the whole answer, of course. The laboratory ensures that the precision and know-how inherent in the standards and their associated metrology is made available to industry through its advisory and calibration services. Either measuring instruments, like micrometer microscopes, or reference standards, like graticules, may be calibrated in terms of the laboratory's laser length standards which are, in turn, derived from the primary length standard which establishes the metre in terms of the internationally agreed definition.

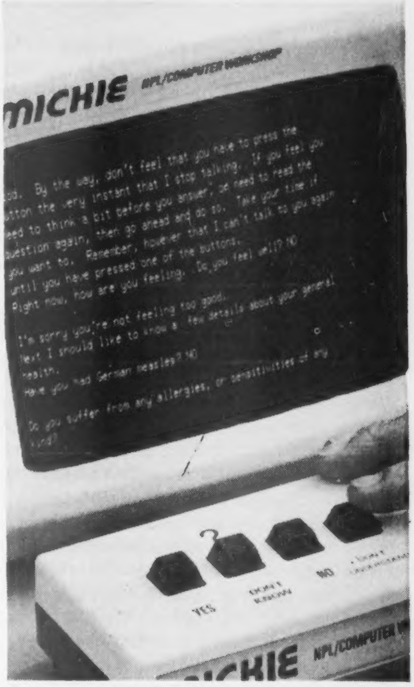
Meeting precise dimensional tolerances is just one illustration of the role played by NPL in providing the measurement assurance which underlies successful microcircuit production. There are many other examples, such as the measurement of temperatures for controlling doping processes or vacuum metrology for thin film deposition, and the many electrical measurements essential in the evaluation of completed circuits. The trend towards further miniaturisation and the adoption of new process technologies, like electron beam pattern formation, underlines the importance of reliable measurement technology.

NPL works also in a number of other areas concerned with microelectronics. One such field is computer science and the development and evaluation of new microprocessor applications. The rapidly falling cost and size of microprocessor-based computers has opened up an enormous range of applications which, up until a few years ago, would have seemed hopelessly impracticable. The laboratory is developing the application of this technology to medicine, education and aids to the handicapped.

A crucial problem in applying microprocessors, or any other computing device, in these areas is that the user may well be totally unfamiliar with, or even hostile towards, computer technology. The problem of 'interfacing' computer devices to lay users is one to which NPL has addressed itself for some years. A small multi-disciplinary team of physicists, psychologists and computer scientists has gained much practical experience in this field and the fruits of their labours include a number of practical microprocessor-based devices in various stages of commercial exploitation by UK firms.

Determining the precise thickness of oxide layers on a semi-conductor with NPL's ellipsometer.





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od.  By the way, don't feel that you have to press the
utton the very instant that I stop talking.  If you feel you
eed to think a bit before you answer, or need to read the
uestion again, then go ahead and do so.  Take your time if
you want to.  Remember, however that I can't talk to you again
until you have pressed one of the buttons.
Right now, how are you feeling.  Do you feel well? NO

I'm sorry you're not feeling too good.
Next I should like to know a  few details about your general
health.
Have you had German measles? NO

Do you suffer from any allergies, or sensitivities of any
kind?
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'How are you feeling?'

One example with considerable social significance is 'Mickie', an automatic medical interviewing system for use in doctor's surgeries, clinics and hospitals. A carefully programmed sequence of questions is presented to patients on a visual display unit. They register their responses on a simple push-button module and see these displayed before the next question is posed. At the end of the interview a concise summary of the data collected is printed-out for use by the doctor.

The function of Mickie is not, of course, to replace doctors but to save their time in eliciting preliminary information from patients. Extensive user trials in hospitals have shown that system is welcomed by patients and, a tribute to the kindly 'personality' built into the software by the NPL team, generally extracts more truthful information. Mickie is now in commercial production and undergoing full evaluation by the Department of Health and Social Security.

Another example is 'Mavis', a flexible system operating through a conventional tv set which allows severely handicapped people to write text, draw diagrams and operate accessories. It could provide the chance of employment which might otherwise be impossible. Mavis is still at the development stage, but an evaluation programme is already underway in collaboration with a UK manufacturer. A number of systems have also been developed for use in the educational field. As with Mickie, these devices are designed to enhance the effectiveness of qualified professionals, not to displace them.

The possibility of complete text books stored in hand-held devices is now a real one. But much more important is the possibility of programming into the device an accompanying teaching course with which the student can interact and the teacher monitor progress. NPL is consulting the various responsible bodies in education as well as practising teachers to ensure that this important area of research is directed along the most beneficial lines.

There are many other examples of the laboratory's work relating to microprocessors: the assembly of microprocessors to form cheap and flexible 'mainframe' computers; the surface analysis techniques for studying the physics and chemistry of semiconductor surfaces; and the applications in high precision metrological instruments for data processing.

Further information on many of these applications is available through the Department of Industry Mapcon scheme, with whom NPL is a registered consultant, or, on NPL's work in the microcircuit field, from Dr Peter Clapham, External and Information Services Unit, National Physical Laboratory, Queen's Road, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 0LW, tel. 01-977 3222, ext. 3040.

BAe simplifies gyroscope

To meet a wide range of applications from high accuracy inertial navigation to moderate accuracy flight control, dynamically-tuned gyroscopes with self-driving and error-compensating electronics are under development by the precision products group of British Aerospace Dynamics Group. Low cost and easier assembly and maintenance are provided by a simplified mechanical design.

The gyroscopes have a wide dynamic measuring range with the advantages of being of the two-axis type and not having flotation fluid. They are suitable for both gimbal and strapdown use. In the strapdown mode they measure the full range of vehicle angular rate, since there is no gimbal isolation between vehicle and gyroscope.

The dynamically-tuned gyroscope comprises a rotor coupled to a drive shaft by flexures and an intermediate gimbal system, the rotor being driven at an angular velocity (tuned speed) at which gimbal inertia effects cancel out flexure restraint torques. The rotor is thus effectively de-coupled from case motion and for small angles acts as a free gyroscope.

Displacement of the case, and therefore platform or vehicle, relative to the rotor, is measured by limited angle pick-offs. Output from these pick-offs is kept substantially at null, either by follow-up action of the platform or by torque applied directly to the rotor by two-axis torque motors. Measurement of torque motor current is thus directly proportional to angular rate.

Support electronics are somewhat specialised, and to allow optimum use of the gyroscopes, precision products group will be offering electronics to cover the torquing function and its digital measurement. In the higher accuracy applications these torquing electronics include the use of a microprocessor to allow the compensation of systematic gyroscope errors. In this case the combination of sensors and electronics form a package called the 'smart' inertial measurement unit.

Rolls-Royce engine for Boeing 757 demonstrated to airlines

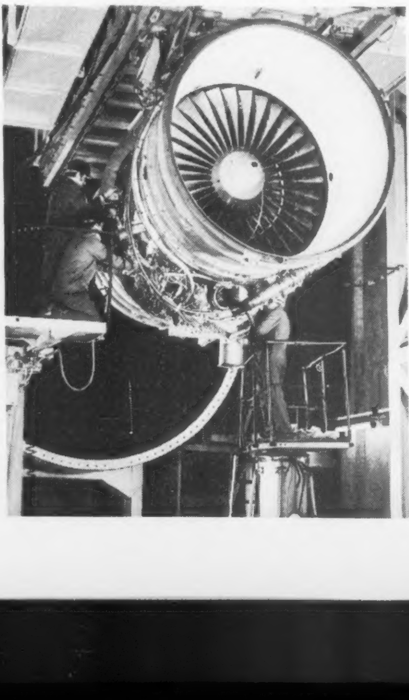
Senior representatives of Eastern Air Lines and British Airways have been shown the first development version of the new Rolls-Royce RB 211-535C engine at a demonstration test run. This engine gives 37 400 lb take-off thrust and is being developed for the new Boeing 757 twin-jet airliner. It is a smaller version of the RB 211s in service in Lockheed TriStar and Boeing 747 wide-bodied airliners.

Last August, Eastern Air Lines and British Airways announced orders for 64 Boeing 757 airliners, including options, to be powered by RB 211-535C engines. These orders are expected to be worth over £300 million to Rolls-Royce, including the value of future sales of engine spares. The Eastern and British Airways orders have since been confirmed by the signing of formal purchase contracts with Boeing which recently announced the full production go-ahead for the new 757 airliner powered by two RB 211-535C engines. It is the first time that Boeing has launched a new airliner with non-American engines. Rolls-Royce expects to earn up to £5,000 million from the sale of engines and spares over the life of the Boeing 757.

The RB 211-535C – a derivative of the higher-thrust versions of the RB 211 – has a smaller fan than these engines, but retains the high-pressure module of compressor, combustion system and turbine of the 42 000 lb thrust RB 211-22B. As a derivative engine the 535C benefits from extensive experience with earlier versions of the RB 211 and will provide excellent fuel economy, low noise levels, low operating costs and long parts lives.

Components are being made for a development batch of the 535C engines. Six of these will be on test before the end of 1979. Certification of the engine for airline service is scheduled before mid 1981. Deliveries of production engines to Boeing for the 757 flight-test programme will begin in 1981 and the engine will enter service in early 1983.

First RB 211-535C development engine being prepared for its initial test run at Derby.



Cray and DAP computers made available for scientific research

Agreement has been reached between the Science Research Council and Cray Research UK Ltd to make time available on a Cray 1 computer for authorised programmes of research. For convenience of access the computer will be located at the SRC's Daresbury Laboratory, but it will remain the property of the Cray Company.

The service will be made available to eminent scientists from UK universities whose projects justify the use of a computer substantially more powerful than the machines now available to them, to help them retain their competitive position in the international field. A similar service will be available on the International Computers Ltd's DAP which is being developed with the council's support and is to be installed at Queen Mary College London later this year.

These computers are likely to be used for a broad range of disciplines including atomic and molecular physics, protein crystallography, solid state physics, plasma physics, astrophysics and branches of engineering.

Approaches to distributed process instrumentation

'Communications in microprocessor industrial instrumentation', a two-day seminar jointly organised by Sira Institute Ltd and the Department of Industry's Warren Spring Laboratory in association with the City University, will be held on 12 to 13 September at the City University, London. This seminar aims to examine the differences in the several approaches to communications in process instrumentation and to compare these approaches with practical user requirements.

The use of microprocessors in process instrumentation is opening up new opportunities for more cost-effective communication methods. Claimed advantages include reduced cabling costs and increased communication system flexibility.

The programme will consist of three sessions covering a tutorial on communications and distributed systems, the approaches adopted by suppliers of process control systems and the requirements of users. The seminar will end with a discussion forum.

Further information may be obtained from Mrs R. G. Keiller, Sira Institute Ltd, South Hill, Chislehurst, Kent BR7 5EH, tel. 01-467 2636.

New products

Freepost reader service

For further information on items in this section, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

Viewdata system launched for business users

Philips Data Systems Ltd has announced a private viewdata system designed specially for the business market. Providing an inexpensive method of recording, storing and accessing business information, it is expected to make the benefits of electronic data handling available to everyone in user companies from boardroom to shop-floor.

The system is based on the P857 minicomputer from Philips' terminal equipment range, with Philips disk storage units and terminal units from the Pye Visa range or from the Philips range of adapted television sets. A specially-manufactured viewdata editing keyboard is provided for terminals used for data entry, giving users the full range of viewdata colour, graphics and special effects facilities.

Control of the system is by means of a software package independently developed by Philips at their Redhill research laboratory between 1975 and 1977, and subsequently refined during user trials in the Netherlands. Close liaison between the laboratory and the Post Office's viewdata development team ensured that the Philips software is consistent with that of Prestel, allowing Philips viewdata users to access Prestel, Oracle and Ceefax with the same terminals. In addition the Philips software includes a number of features specially designed to enhance the efficiency of a private viewdata system.

Several specially developed features are offered amongst which are the 'keyword search' technique, by means of which a user who knows what he is looking for can have the page displayed without needing to route his enquiry through the index, and the 'dynamic routing page compilation' feature, which ensures that users can only see items listed on index pages which their authorisation code entitles them to view. This latter feature is an important consideration in terms of system security, but also brings the advantage that it is impossible to mis-match index pages and information pages in the Philips system while a page cannot, additionally, be deleted while cross-references to it still exist anywhere else in the system.

Philips also provide a special facility for users with appropriate authorisation codes to review every page in the system, thus making it unnecessary to keep hard copies of pages entered. A further convenience feature is that users can move back and forth between pages by keying a single digit, without having to return each time to the index page at the start of the section. An editing process also provides users with a step-by-step instruction system that ensures no mistake can be made in data input or page modification. Editing can also take place immediately a user number is keyed in.

Because the business market as a whole is unfamiliar with viewdata, Philips are inviting interested companies to send teams of managers to their London Viewdata Centre to experiment with viewdata and devise applications which would be valuable in their own operations. These applications are simulated and tested at the centre, and the teams of workshop guests become aware of, and proficient in, the possibilities of viewdata as a corporate information system.

Further information: circle 420

Year-round heating and cooling in one package

Production manufacture of a range of water chillers with heat reclamation and an incorporated heat pump in a compact single package has been announced by the York division of Borg-Warner Ltd. The York 'Energypak' units are designed to provide both heating and cooling load requirements of all types of conventional industrial and commercial buildings found in Europe.

As a package, Energypak can be easily and quickly incorporated into either an existing air-conditioning system or the environmental control design of a new building. Compared with the price of a standard water chiller or standard heat recovery system, the pay-back period to amortise the premium paid for York's fully automatic heat recovery and heat pump system is claimed to be as short as three years.

Employing a solid state electronic control unit, the Energypak system is capable of automatically changing from cooling mode to heat recovery and to heat pump modes in accordance with the building load demand throughout the year. It is also capable of accepting less than full heat availability when in heat recovery mode.

When operating in the heat reclaim mode the system directs the waste heat from the chiller evaporator to an auxiliary shell and tube heat-exchanger to produce hot water, instead of rejecting the heat through an air cooled condenser. In the heat pump mode, heat is absorbed from the surrounding air by the air cooled condenser, acting as an evaporator, and utilised to produce hot water at the shell and tube heat-exchanger, used in this mode as a main condenser.

In a trial installation, the system has produced a co-efficient of performance of 3 kW output for an input of 1 kW in the heat recovery and heat pump modes, producing hot water at 49°C with the external air temperature at −4°C.

Present Enerygpak design caters for 65 tonne and 90 tonne nominal cooling packages, each consisting of a standard 'J' type reciprocating semi-hermitic compressor, with a vertical air condensor module and a shell and tube heat-exchanger, all mounted on a common base frame dimensioned for international shipping. Only electric power and water connections are required for operation. The entire package is weather-proofed.

Further information: circle 421

Simple digital shopfloor metrology for small firms

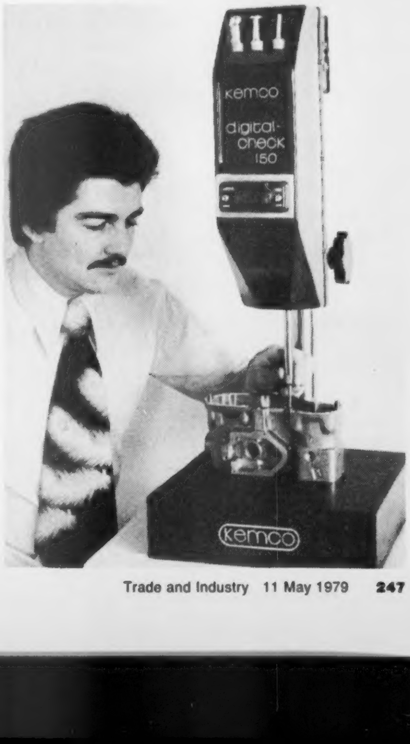
'Digital-Check 150' from Keeling Metrology Ltd has been introduced to fill the need for a reliable shopfloor inspection unit within the capital resources of a small firm. It is simple to use. There are no checks to be made apart from looking at the digital display.

By housing the readout integrally, Keeling Metrology have obviated the need for the operator to move from his seat during inspection. The readout is conveniently situated at eye-level. Eliminating the need for conventional inspection equipment such as height gauges, verniers, slip gauges, depth micrometers and dial indicators, the 'Digital-Check 150' can rapidly inspect a variety of features on a component.

Checks can be made on height and depth, parallelism, outside diameters and hole centres, and in addition tool setting can be performed quickly and accurately. Six measuring probes are available and the unit can be used horizontally as well as in the usual vertical position. It can be mounted on to a larger base for inspection of large components and an extension arm can be fitted. For customers requiring permanent recording of results a print-out is available.

Dual inch and metric readout is provided.

Little skill required.



Measuring travel is 150 mm with 0.010 mm and 0.001 in resolution. Measurement is displayed instantly with counting in both directions.

Further information: circle 422

Drilling machine has low-cost cnc

W. E. Norton (Machine Tools) Ltd's F10/APT 10-station auto/single cycle turret drilling machine features a recently introduced automatic table positioning system, providing users with many of the advantages of computer numerical control without its associated high costs.

A special feature is the camless design, which enables all automatic sequences, such as spindle speed, feed selection, skip index, spindle reversal (when tapping), spindle dwell, programme stop and table positioning, to be electronically preselected from a control console.

Control programming uses a keyboard with a 2000 memory system. A search facility is provided for checking the programme, and editing for alterations is also possible. Other features include battery back-up, floating zero with return to zero facility M-functions to control five different tooling operations, and manual positioning in both x and y axes.

Further information: circle 423

Mini-computer given multi-terminal capability

Digico Ltd's Consort mini-computer system, designed for the small, first time user is now available as an enhanced two terminal configuration. It offers a multi-terminal capability by means of a software memory management facility. The system is designed to speed up terminal response times by eliminating the overhead of swapping users on disc.

The improved floppy disc based Consort provides a multi-terminal mini-computer for the small business system at the price of a micro system; an even more powerful Consort for the first time user, without having to expand to a bigger processor in the range; and a software version of Digico's powerful MTS/16E hardware paging unit.

A typical two terminal Consort 30 would comprise a dual floppy disk based 96K byte central processor unit, two powerful Regent visual display units VDU's and a 60 characters per second Matrix printer.

Further information: circle 424

Paging receivers can be individually charged

Single-unit chargers, RSR26 and RSR27, designed for use with any type of Multitone paging receiver, transceiver or talkback transmitter fitted with charging contacts, have been introduced by Multitone Electric Company Ltd. The Multitone chargers are suitable for use on a desk or table, but they can also be wall mounted.

During charging the pager continues to respond to calls.

RSR26 is designed for operation from a 200-240 V, 50 Hz ac mains supply and the RSR27 for 100-120 V, 60 Hz ac supplies. The receiver or other pocket unit is simply placed in a shaped recess and is securely held by means of the pocket clip. Regular overnight use will keep the cells fully charged, while a 14-hour charge is sufficient to recharge exhausted cells completely.

The chargers are also provided with a pocket which can charge two BA401 rechargeable cells separately from the pager, enabling pagers to be used around the clock if required. The charging pocket can be used while a pager is being recharged or it can be used independently. Indicator lamps are fitted to show that the mains supply is connected and that the pager or separate cells are charging.

Whilst on-charge, the pager continues to respond to calls, and as an optional facility, the charger can be fitted with an alarm module which is activated when a pager in the charging position receives a call. A third lamp then flashes and a closing contact causes an external bell or other annunciator to be sounded.

The charger is cased in durable impact-resistant black ABS plastics material with soft feet fitted to the base of the unit to prevent damage to polished surfaces when used on a desk or table. Two 'knockout' keyhole slots in the base are provided for use when the charger is wall mounted.

Further information: circle 425

Flexible auto-dial for telex

Compactness is a feature of a range of store and forward auto-dial equipment designed for small and medium-sized telex users developed by ATS Communications Ltd. A pilot system has been in operation for some months in the offices of a shipping broker. It has considerably reduced the number of telex machines needed to cope with outgoing traffic and completely eliminated the overloaded conditions which existed within the telex department.

Due to the application of microprocessors, the ATS KM700, on a smaller scale, offers greater flexibility, speed and operational facilities than minicomputer based systems. It offers the dual capability of either automatically handling out-going messages to the world-wide telex service, or distributing incoming telex or Datel traffic to any of up to 96 receiving points within an office complex or private network.

The new equipment conforms to all Post Office requirements relating to connection to line, message integrity and automatic repeat dialing procedures. The basic system comprises a micro-processor controller, DCE3 interfaces to 4 telex lines which are expandable to 16 lines, an integral 5-unit paper tape reader, high speed journal printer and supervisory visual display unit. Input to the system may be via paper tape, telex machine, visual display unit or Vitel.

Vitel is a telegraph-compatible visual display terminal designed as a silent, all electronic and faster alternative to teleprinters and telex machines. With its own microprocessor controller and storage facilities, the Vitel may be used off-line to compose, edit and correct messages displayed on the screen.

Once a message is loaded on to the ATS auto-dialer and its address is in the library, be it full, short form, or group, the operator may 'forget it' and move on to the next job. Having taken-over, the system automatically dials the number until the connection is established. The answer back is then compared with the information in the library. If they correspond the message is transmitted, if not the process is repeated until the correct connection is made.

Every dial attempt, message transmission, including date, time and duration, line fault or connection problem is automatically logged and printed out on an adjacent journal printer to enable the operator to see at a glance the status of all work in hand. An additional facility of the system is to work 'overtime' unsupervised, thus clearing the traffic loaded during the normal working day.

Further information: circle 426

Small-scale vacuum forming at low-cost

A low cost manual vacuum forming machine has been introduced by Ridat Engineering Co Ltd. Called the 1812 Manual and developed from the company's model 1815, it is the smallest model in the Ridat range and has been specially designed for use with 480 mm × 280 mm skin pack cards. Suitable for small scale production, it can also be used for sampling plastics, checking moulds, testing forming techniques, and laboratory work.

All operations are manually controlled on the 1812. The plastic sheet for forming is secured under a clamp frame by a cam-action lever. The heater slides on runners and is pulled out above the plastic and pushed back again by hand. The drape table is raised and lowered by foot pedal.

For special applications the 1812 Manual can be fitted with pneumatic drape table operation and plug assistance. When these power assisted controls are fitted, the machine is guarded to the recommendations of the Health and Safety at Work Act.

Further information: circle 427

Overseas trade news

Call to restore UK-Argentine economic ties

After three years of 'great progress' changing the basic structure of the economy, Argentina is now poised to reap the fruits of sound economic growth, said Argentine Minister of the Economy Dr Martinez de Hoz in London on 3 May. Speaking to a packed business seminar arranged by the Latin American trade advisory group at the Hilton Hotel, he said that for this reason the time was not right for an effort to restore the economic ties which existed between Britain and Argentina before the second world war.

He acknowledged that Argentina's inflation rate – currently running at 170 per cent – had to be brought down. He agreed that one of the problems – touched on by retiring chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board Sir Frederick Catherwood in his address of welcome to seminar delagates – was to overcome the inflationary expectations of the person in the street. His team had undertaken to announce guideline figures on wage rates and exchange rates for the coming year to counter this tendency.

Economic programme progress

Explaining the progress of his economic programme during the last three years, Dr Martinez de Hoz said it was necessary to see recent developments against those of the 30 years that had gone before; between 1946 and 1976 Argentina's economy had become state-oriented and closed to global expansion with the result that industry had become overprotected and had stagnated while private enterprise had been stifled in the more productive areas of the economy; at the same time growing public expenditure had widened a budget deficit which was financed by an expansion of the money supply. By March 1976, Dr Martinez de Hoz said, Argentina was not only facing hyperinflation and recession, she was on the verge of default on her external payments.

The economic programme adopted that year marked a complete break with the past. Taking delegates through developments (see *Trade and Industry*'s special report on Argentina, 30 March), he pointed to measures to reduce the budget deficit by cutting back on the public sector, to a number of basic economic reforms which he said were designed to take the economy out of the 'straight jacket' of artificial price and exchange controls, and to steps to reduce the excessive money supply and stimulate savings in an economy which had become 'demonetised'.

Dr Martinez de Hoz admitted that the freeing of interest rates in June 1977 had been tough on business which, after benefiting from negative rates, had been required to rebuild its working capital overnight. Industry's readjustment pains produced a renewed recession early in 1978, he said. But by the end of March this year the figures showed that production had picked up again – investment in the first quarter of this year was 18 per cent better than during the same period in 1978 and was at the best first-quarter level for a decade. Consumer demand was also up, by 15 per cent, he said, although he stressed that the government's aim was to avoid overheating the economy.

The reforms had produced Argentine foreign exchange reserves of $7 billion and a balance of payments surplus of $2 billion last year. But the growth in exports had not been matched by a corresponding growth in imports for two reasons, he said: because of less stockpiling of goods people were importing less, and the recession in industry, which is responsible for the bulk of Argentine imports, had reduced demand. But Argentina's five-year tariff reduction programme, launched in January, was expected to stimulate imports, as was the recent removal of the last of the import prohibitions. The country's new public investment programme, to 1981, was also likely to open the way to increased imports of foreign goods and technology.

Private sector

Delegates also heard from a leading representative of the private sector – Eduardo Oxenford, president of Alpargates. Most business people, he said, supported the policies of Dr Martinez de Hoz. They were conscious of the great improvements they had brought about – reducing inflation and the budget deficit, building up the country's reserves, reforming the financial system, and transferring resources from the inefficient to the efficient sectors of the economy.

He felt that the economic team had been less successful in reducing the public sector but agreed that many state enterprises were now much more efficient. Political pressure to reduce inflation, which had produced a price truce and positive interest rates in 1977, had given the private sector a difficult time. And there were reservations about the method of implementing the tariff reduction programme at a time when the peso was, in his view, overvalued. But he was convinced that Dr Martinez de Hoz's achievements would now set a new pattern for future economic policy in Argentina.

Panel discussions

In the afternoon the seminar broke up for panel discussions covering all aspects of business in Argentina, including trade, investment, and the transfer of technology oil, petrochemicals and gas, the agro-industrial prospect, energy generation and transmission, transport and communications, metal-working industries, and local manufacture and joint ventures.

Each panel comprised Argentine and British business representatives and officials with knowledge on the subject under discussion. Among the Argentine experts were Ing Daniel Brunella, Secretary of State for Energy, Ing Frederico Dumas, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Investment, Lic Juan E. Dumas, Under-Secretary of State, International Economic Negotiations, Ing Lucio Ballester, director of National Development Bank of Argentina, and Ing Jorge H. Kogan, Argentine National Director of Transport Planning.

'Poised to reap the fruits of sound economic growth' was Dr Jose Martinez de Hoz's claim about Argentina's future.

Britain seeks overseas markets through offshore oil conference

Over 150 British companies exhibited at the offshore technology conference and exhibition held in Houston from 30 April to 3 May.

Speaking on the opening day the Duke of Kent, vice-chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, said that the conference was of cardinal importance to the UK, because not only was the United States Britain's largest overseas trading partner, but the conference was also much the biggest venture undertaken by the BOTB in north America

This was very much a sign of the times and a reflection of the place that oil and its exploration had come to occupy in the economy of Britain – and indeed the world, the Duke said.

Britain had built up its own oil-related industry in little more than 10 years to a stage where it was capable of supplying more than 60 per cent of the UK offshore market.

With this track record, British companies were looking to the possibilities offered by overseas markets, especially to those with actual or potential offshore programmes, said the Duke.

The Duke of Kent looking at the design study model of the deep sea production system on the Humphreys and Glasgow stand. The system is designed to house manned production and process equipment in a dry, one atmosphere environment at depths from 600 to 3000 ft.

Vehicle identity codes register set up

Technical Help to Exporters (THE), part of the British Standards Institution, has been nominated as the UK national registration authority for an international manufacturer identifier code for road vehicles.

It has been necessary to set up a registration authority to put into practice a world standard prepared by the International Organisation for Standardization (ISO). This standard, ISO 3780 'World manufacturer identifier (WMI) code', is concerned with identifying the manufacturer, type and make of vehicle by a three-letter group that will be used as a part of the international vehicle identification number (VIN). This number (a requirement of another ISO standard, ISO 3779) is a group of characters to be assigned by manufacturers for individual identification of vehicles. British standards identical with the ISO documents will be published soon.

The UK national registration authority will allocate appropriate WMI codes to manufacturers, maintain a register of them, and notify the international registration authority nominated by ISO. The body nominated for this is the Society of Automobile Engineers Inc in the United States.

A register has now been set up by THE, and requests for supply of the application form, which gives details of the information required and the charges involved, should be made to Mr R. W. Palk, WMI Co-ordinator, BSI Technical Help to Exporters Service, Maylands Ave, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP2 4SQ, tel. Hemel Hempstead 3111.

Italy: use of TIR carnets

The recently amended TIR carnet does not make provision for the value of the goods to be declared.

The Italian customs will continue to require a declaration of the value of the goods for some time so exporters are advised to make sure this declaration is made if using the new carnet.

Failure to do so may well result in the goods not being admitted and vehicles being turned back.

In the event of any problems, exporters are advised to contact the Road Haulage Association, the Freight Transport Association or their carnet guaranteeing body.
Inquiries: CRE 3, tel. 01-215 3476

Birmingham mission to Venezuela and Ecuador

A mission to Venezuela and Ecuador from 29 September to 13 October, is being sponsored by the Birmingham Chamber of Industry and Commerce.

The chamber reports great interest in the mission, especially from the civil engineering and construction sector. Applications from any other types of company that wish to visit these countries during the autumn, may still be made to the chamber.

Members of the mission will be eligible for a subsidy under the outward mission scheme of the British Overseas Trade Board.

Applications must be received at the chamber by Thursday, 31 May.

Further details are available from Bryan Carnes on 021-454 6171 ext. 206.

Hints to Exporters booklets

Revised editions of the booklets on Spain, Malaysia and Brunei, and The Gambia have been issued. These booklets can be ordered by post, accompanied by the appropriate remittance, from the Department of Trade, Publications Sales Unit, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU at £1 per copy, plus postage and packing as follows: one copy 20p; two to four copies 30p; five to seven copies 40p; more than seven post free.

Notices to importers

Issued by the Department of Trade. Telephone inquiries should be addressed to the number at the end of the notice.

1739: imports of twine and cordage from Portugal

Notice to importers 1706, *Trade and Industry*, 15 September 1978, set out the details of a system of double control on exports to the community of certain textile goods from Spain and Portugal.

The goods set out below, originating in Portugal, are also covered by these arrangements and in this respect the document required before a surveillance licence will be issued is as follows:
'Boletim de Registro de Exportacao' or a 'Boletim global de Exportacao', certified by the Instituto dos Texteis.

Tariff heading/Description of goods
59.04 Twine, cordage, ropes and cables, plaited or not

Inquiries: Import Licensing Branch, tel. 01-603 4644 ext. 268.

Gatt Tokyo round

FEATURE

Negotiators from the main developed countries and the European Economic Community initialled agreements in Geneva just before Easter, thereby marking the conclusion of most aspects of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt) 'Tokyo round' of trade negotiations aimed at removing barriers to international trade.

The negotiations, the latest in a series of post-war rounds, started in the autumn of 1973. The oil crisis and the disturbed economic conditions which followed made the negotiations more difficult but at the same time more crucial; a failure could have encouraged further the forces which foster protectionism when the going is rough. As it was, delays prevented the negotiations heading seriously towards a settlement until 1977. It was therefore a considerable encouragement that most aspects of the negotiations have been brought successfully to a conclusion – though there are still hurdles to be cleared before the package of measures can be implemented.

Previous negotiating rounds, such as the 'Kennedy' and 'Dillon' rounds, have largely been on the reduction of tariff levels. As well as this, the 'Tokyo round' has attacked the non-tariff barriers to trade which have become increasingly important as tariff barriers have become lower.

Industrial tariffs

Most of the industrialised participants have offered cuts in their industrial tariffs averaging between 25 per cent and 30 per cent. The United States has offered to cut its tariffs against EEC exports by around 30 per cent on average, Japan a cut of about 25 per cent on its currently effective rates against EEC exports. The EEC has offered to reduce the average level of its common external tariff from about 9.8 per cent to about 7.5 per cent. The tariff deals are balanced with the aim of ensuring that the main participants offer each others' exports roughly the same level of concession as is obtained in return.

Participants proceeded by adopting a formula for tariff cutting, the so-called 'Swiss formula' under which high tariffs are cut proportionately more than low ones. This increases the extent to which the tariffs of different countries are brought into alignment. To take one example, the tariffs on most types of machinery will be subject to standard formula cuts in the United States, the community and Japan.

Within this framework, negotiators made a substantial number of partial or full exceptions to the general formula for the benefit of industries particularly sensitive to import competition. The community made no or relatively small offers on most of its industries most vulnerable to imports, for example, the motor industry, television sets, fertilisers, cutlery and shoes. Some of the concessions made on textile and paper tariffs in the negotiations with the United States caused concern in the industries affected, but offsetting measures have been agreed to give them greater assurance against the possibility of disruptive United States competition. In the case of textiles, worthwhile opportunities for exporters have been obtained in the United States market.

In return for the concessions it has made, the community has obtained worthwhile benefits for its exporters in foreign markets. The United States has, for example, abolished the 'American selling price' system of chemical tariffs, and offered to reduce all its tariffs on chemicals (of which the highest are over 40 per cent) to 20 per cent or below. The United States has also offered worthwhile concessions on its high tariffs on tableware and Japan on certain electrical goods (eg computers).

Main points
Summary on page 253

Most of the tariff cuts will be implemented in eight equal annual stages over the years 1980–7. This will give industrialists time to adjust, to assess opportunities and to plan for the future. For certain sensitive industries – notably steel, textiles, and ceramics – tariff cuts will not start until 1982. As an additional safeguard, the community has reserved its right to stop the tariff cuts in 1984 after five years, without proceeding to the last three stages, if it judges that the economic circumstances of the time require this.

Non-tariff codes

Public procurement

An agreement on public procurement is to come into force in January 1981, and aims to make it easier for firms in signatory countries to compete for contracts to supply foreign governments. It liberalises the purchases of products and supporting services (but not the provision of services alone) on contracts of some £100,000 and upwards, to ministries, departments and similar bodies under central governments' control. Exceptions can be made for security and other reasons, and the agreement does not apply to defence contracts for war-like stores.

The procedures by which governments invite, and the conditions under which companies must submit tenders are to be published and must be clear. There should be no discrimination between foreign and domestic suppliers. Most major contracts are to be advertised in advance, and 'single tendering' is permitted for certain types of contract only. Once a contract has been awarded, any eliminated supplier can ask why he was not accepted or not asked to submit a tender; and who was successful and why. This and other similar procedures are aimed to ensure that justice is done and seen to be done. Settlement of disputes is assisted by a Gatt committee of signatories to the code.

Subsidies and countervailing agreement

The subsidies and countervailing agreement spells out in some detail the existing Gatt rules

Sir Roy Denman, director general, external relations, of the EEC commission, initials the Tokyo round proces-verbal on 12 April. Looking on are (left to right) ambassador Carl de Geer (Sweden), Olivier Long, director general of Gatt, ambassador Masao Sawaki (Japan), ambassador Alonzo McDonald (United States).

Gatt and the Geneva multilateral trade negotiations: some basic questions answered

What is Gatt?
The general agreement on tariffs and trade (Gatt) is a multilateral treaty aimed at liberalising world trade and subscribed to by over 80 governments which together account for more than four-fifths of world trade. It lays down agreed rules for international trade. For 30 years the Gatt has also functioned as the principal international body concerned with negotiating the reduction of trade barriers and with international trade relations. It is thus both a code of rules and a forum in which countries can discuss and overcome their trade problems and negotiate to enlarge world trading opportunities

What were its origins?
Gatt and its antecedents date back to before the last war. In 1941 the Atlantic charter agreed between the United States and the UK already pointed to the need 'to further the enjoyment by all states, great or small, victor or vanquished, of access, on equal terms, to the trade and raw materials of the world which are needed for their economic prosperity'. Immediately after the war, the United States, again in consultation with the UK, gave the lead in circulating a document entitled 'Proposals for expansion of world trade and employment', suggesting the creation of an international trade organisation as part of a wider package of trade reforms. After preparatory work in the UN, the Gatt was set up by general consensus; and the abandonment of wider plans left the general agreement as the established multilateral instrument for laying down rules about international trade.

How many countries are Gatt members?
The original general agreement, which came into force in January 1948, was signed by 23 countries. The most obvious exceptions were Russia and a number of eastern bloc countries which have remained outside the agreement ever since; and Germany, Japan, Italy and the Scandinavian countries who subsequently all became signatories.

Today membership of the Gatt has grown to 84 countries, while a further 24 nations also apply its rules to their trade, maintaining a *de facto* application of the Gatt pending final decisions as to their future policies. In addition, another three nations have now acceded provisionally to the Gatt. Thus Gatt membership is now almost, if not quite, universal. The notable exceptions still include Russia and some of the east European states. Eastern bloc countries that *are* now signatories of the Gatt are Czechoslovakia, Romania, Poland and Yugoslavia.

However, the Tokyo declaration launching the current 'round' of multilateral trade negotiations made it clear that *all* countries were invited to take part in the discussions – whether or not they were members of the Gatt.

How has the Gatt developed?
The original general agreement had the principal aim 'the substantial reduction of tariffs and other barriers to trade'. This has remained the objective during the 30 years since, in which a further six major 'rounds' of trade negotiations have taken place between 1949 and 1979. The latest is the 'Tokyo round – so-called because it was launched in 1973 by a ministerial meeting in Tokyo at which over 100 countries were represented (though the substantive negotiations didn't get under way until the beginning of 1975).

What has been the organisation and objectives of the Tokyo round?
These negotiations have been the most ambitious and wide-ranging in the 30 years of Gatt's history. Covering both tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade in industrial and agricultural products, and giving particular attention to the trade problems of developing countries, the Tokyo declaration also provided for the possibility of improvements in the general agreement itself. During the Tokyo round, developed countries have negotiated among themselves on the basis of reciprocity – ie they have been expected to make trade concessions balancing those they receive, with the aim of achieving an overall balance of advantage at the highest possible level. Developing countries have not been expected to make contributions inconsistent with their individual development, financial and trade needs.

A trade negotiations committee – made up of representatives of more than the 100 countries involved – has guided negotiations in their substantive phase since February 1975 at the Gatt headquarters in Geneva. Much of the detailed work has been done in sub-committees and bilateral discussions.

about what governments may and may not do to assist the export performance of their industries. It recognises that subsidies may be used to promote important objectives of social and economic policy. It also recognises that subsidies may cause adverse effects for the interests of other countries, and signatories undertake to seek to avoid such effects. There is provision for consultation and the conciliation of any disputes.

Since the British government provides support for industry under a variety of schemes, both by way of export assistance and production aids, this is an important agreement for us. A major benefit is that all signatories undertake not to apply countervailing duties (duties which an importing country imposes to offset the benefit of a subsidy on exported goods) unless it can be demonstrated that a subsidy causes or threatens material injury to their domestic industry.

Developed countries undertake (in accordance with Gatt rules) not to grant export subsidies. None of the UK's existing export assistance schemes provided by the British Overseas Trade Board or the Export Credits Guarantee Department should however be affected by the agreement.

Anti-dumping code
The existing anti-dumping code has been revised so as to bring its provisions into line with those of the subsidies and countervailing code.

Customs valuation agreement
Those countries which have initialled the customs valuation agreement have agreed to greater uniformity in their methods of arriving at the value on which their ad valorem duties are based. The charging of duty on an artificially inflated value – which means that the importer pays more duty than he should – constitutes a non-tariff barrier to legitimate trade. The agreement aims at eliminating such practices and minimising the scope for the arbitrary valuation of imported goods by customs officials such as now occurs in some foreign countries. The agreement ends the United States 'American selling price' (ASP) system under which for certain goods duty is based, not on the landed value of the goods but on the (higher) actual selling price within the United States of similar goods produced there.

Under the agreement the value normally used for assessing duty will be the price paid or payable. Only in certain well-defined circumstances will other methods, for example the value of identical or similar goods, be used – and these methods will be applied in a strict order of precedence. For the exporter (and for that matter the importer) the result should be greater predictability of the amount of duty to be paid. The agreement is to be administered at the political level by the Gatt and at the technical level by the Customs Co-operation Council. There are provisions for the settlement of disputes between the parties to the agreement about its operation.

Technical barriers to trade
The code of conduct for preventing technical barriers to trade is designed to reduce obstacles to trade that result from the preparation, adoption, and application of product standards and certification systems. The code encourages the use of appropriate existing international standards when a new or revised domestic standard or technical regulation is being drafted. Whenever use of an existing international standard is not appropriate, or when no international standard exists, open procedures must be followed during formulation of standards and certification systems. These procedures include publishing proposed measures, affording an opportunity to make comments, and taking such comments into account. The code is not, however, intended to interfere with the right of countries to adopt appropriate standards to protect health, safety or the environment.

Standards (both voluntary and mandatory) and certification systems, promulgated by central governments, state and local governments, and standardising bodies, are subject to the code's provisions. The code's provisions apply to new and revised standards and certification systems. Consequently, implementation of the code will not involve any change to existing standards or certification systems. Nonetheless, if a signatory believes that an existing measure conflicts with the code's obligations, it may raise the matter in the committee of signatories and use the dispute settlement mechanism to seek a mutually satisfactory solution. British standard systems are not devised as barriers to trade, so we have something to gain in ensuring that others play fair too.

Import licensing agreement
The advantage of the import licensing agreement is that it produces benefits for exporters to other countries but does not require change in the EEC law or UK practice. Overall, the agreement aims at ensuring that import licensing procedures do not in themselves act as restrictions on imports, whether they relate to licensing for quantitative restrictions purposes or to automatic import licensing.

Aircraft sector agreement
An agreement on the Aircraft sector covers both tariff and non-tariff matters. Signatories to it agree to reduce their tariffs on aircraft, aero-engines and related products to zero, and give various undertakings on such matters as purchasing, government support for projects and standards. The agreement should help safeguard the UK's important interest in aircraft and aero-engine exports to the United States and other main developed markets.

Safeguard action
One major area in the negotiations, covering safeguard action against disruptive imports, remains to be settled. There are various objectives in this area; the United States seeks improved procedures within the Gatt before such a measure was taken by an importing country; and the EEC seeks recognition (as part of the total agreement) that such action may be taken selectively. It is hoped that agreement will be possible on both these aspects by July, in time for the United States to include suitable provisions in their implementing legislation. In any even, the EEC council of ministers recognised on 3 April that action of this sort had already been taken on a selective basis and that such precedents would be taken into account in future action by the EEC.

Agriculture

The UK has been interested in obtaining improved access for imported food for the UK consumer from the United States, Australia, New Zealand, and other countries, and in obtaining improved overseas markets for exports of processed foods. In the event, the community has agreed to reduce tariffs on a range of food and agricultural products, many of them in the fresh fruit and vegetable sectors, and on tobacco; to improve access for beef from the United States and Argentina; to improve access for cheese from New Zealand and Canada; and to make concessions for imported turkey parts, subject to review in certain circumstances. There are also to be lower tariff on certain types of fish – eg cod and salmon.

Britain has attached importance to the community reaching agreement with Australia and New Zealand who used to be major suppliers to the UK market. It is therefore satisfactory that the community has agreed with New Zealand a quota giving access to about 10 000 tonnes of New Zealand cheese. Australia has been offered improved access for beef, and negotiations with her continue, aimed at reaching an agreement acceptable to both sides.

Main points of Tokyo Round

☐ Phased cuts averaging 25 per cent to 30 per cent in the industrial tariffs of the community's main industrialised trading partners, matched by equivalent reductions in the community's common external tariff.
☐ An agreement on public purchasing, aimed at increasing opportunities for exporters to bid for government contracts
☐ An agreement on standards aimed at reducing barriers to trade arising from product standards and certification requirements.
☐ An agreement on subsidies and countervailing duties concerned with the application of Gatt rules on these matters.
☐ An agreement on customs valuation aimed at prohibiting unfair and arbitrary customs valuations methods.
☐ Reduction in the barriers on the UK's imports and exports of certain agricultural products and processed foods and drinks.
☐ Favourable treatment of developing countries.

Inquiries

The new tariff schedules and the texts of the agreements have not yet been finalised; when they have been completed they will be published. Meanwhile, inquiries for further information should be directed to the Department of Trade or the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food as appropriate, on 01-215 3816 or 3041 (industrial tariffs), 01-215 5432 or 3389 (non-tariff agreements) and 01-839 7711 ext. 7105 (agriculture).

Participants in the negotiations have reached agreement on arrangements relating to dairy products and beef. The prime aim is to encourage stability in the international markets for these products.

In return for the concessions it has made, the community has obtained important concessions for UK exporters. The wine gallon method of tax assessment in the United States, whereby imports of Scotch whisky pay extra tax, is to be abolished – a major UK objective. Canada has agreed to give undertakings about the discriminatory practices of its liquor boards, and the United States is to substantially increase EEC cheese quotas. Tariff concessions of interest to UK exporters have been offered by various countries on spirits, chocolate confectionery, cocoa powder, biscuits, cakes, pastry, sardines and citrus juices.

Developing countries

In accordance with the aims set at the outset of the Tokyo round, specially favourable treatment has been accorded to the developing countries. The community and various other developed countries have offered, and implemented in advance, tariff concessions on tropical products. The community and others have offered tariff cuts greater than those required by the standard tariff-cutting formula on a range of products of interest to the developing countries. Some developing countries have in return offered modest concessions which are consistent with their development, financial and trade needs.

The non-tariff agreements each incorporate special provisions for developing countries, for example to reduce the level of obligation they are asked to undertake, and to grant extended transitional periods before obligations become effective. There have also been some changes in Gatt rules to meet the needs of developing countries. One major example is a new rule modifying the 'most favoured nation' principle of non-discrimination in the Gatt to permit specially favourable treatment for developing countries.

These arrangements do not meet all the objectives that have been sought by developing countries, and they are likely to make this plain in the proceedings of Unctad V, although some of the more advanced developing countries have indicated a willingness to subscribe to non-tariff codes. In view of developed countries' efforts to make concessions for developing countries to the greatest extent possible, they hope that most developing countries will in due course be able to support the outcome of the trade negotiations.

Conclusion

The negotiations provide for the first comprehensive updating of the Gatt since its inception 30 years ago, and will make Gatt rules more relevant to the circumstances of the 1980s. No participant can expect to achieve everything they want from a set of negotiations. The outcome of the negotiations does however promise the UK a number of solid benefits, such as worthwhile tariff concessions in export markets, the general acceptance by developed countries of the current Gatt criteria for the imposition of countervailing duties, and the conclusion of agreements which should help establish fair play over non-tariff barriers to trade.

It is important that all parties to the various agreements should implement them faithfully; if they did not then the community would not be able to do so. But all going well, exporters should find that the results of the Tokyo round produce a gradual, but marked and beneficial change to their trading environment in the 1980s.

News of export services

If your company has recently introduced a new service for exporters – in, for example, the packing, forwarding, shipping, airfreighting, banking or translation fields – we would be glad to have details, plus a good black and white photograph where appropriate.

Items for inclusion in this feature should be addressed to the Editor, Trade and Industry, Eighth Floor, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1.

Advertisers who wish to be associated with this feature should contact Dudley Masters on 01-242 9478.

MARKET REPORT: SOLOMON ISLANDS

Where aid leads the way

A newly-independent south Pacific nation of 11 500 square miles and 200 000 people, many of them engaged in subsistence farming and fishing, might well escape the attention of exporters in distant Britain. For those interested in pursuing the opportunities, many of which stem from British aid, this article from Gordon Slater, British high commissioner in Honiara, gives a broad picture of the Solomon Islands and its economy.

With its six major islands the 800-mile-long archipelago of the Solomon Islands lies near Papua New Guinea, 1100 miles north-east from, and roughly parallel to, the Queensland coast of Australia. The capital and business centre, Honiara, population about 16 000, is situated on the north coast of the fairly central island of Guadalcanal.

European awareness of Solomon Islands dates back to the sixteenth century after the Spaniard Mendaña sighted Santa Ysabel, another of the main islands, in 1568. It was he who named the group in the-so far-unfulfilled hope that it was the source of King Solomon's wealth. Over 300 years later, in 1893, Britain declared a protectorate over the southern Solomons and, on 7 July last year, after a period of self-government, the Solomon Islands became an independent nation.

The main exports are copra, fish, timber and, more recently, palm oil. Last year exports and imports each totalled about $30 million (SI$1 = A$1 = about 59p).

The economy currently depends to a significant degree on overseas aid but the Solomon Islands' government, with go-ahead policies, good economic prospects and competent housekeeping, has set itself the goal of economic self-reliance, largely to be achieved through rural development.

English is the official, and business, language (there are some 40 others, and Pidgin English is the lingua franca).

Communications

Regular flights link the Solomons with Australia, Nauru/Japan, Fiji and Papua New Guinea, and the Bank Line (freight agents Eastern Liner Services Ltd, 15 St Botolph Street, London EC3) has a monthly ship from Cardiff via continental ports. This year Bank Line plans to go fully over to containers and to speed up its services to the south Pacific; the voyage from the last continental port to Honiara will then take about six weeks.

Phone and telex services in and out of the capital are excellent since Cable and Wireless, in a joint venture with the government, began operating an earth satellite station in Honiara early this year.

Prospects for UK exporters

What prospects are there in the Solomon Islands for British exporters? First some cons. It is of course a small market, some 11 000 miles away from Britain (11 hours ahead in time) and exporters in nearby Australia, which, with some 33 per cent, has the lion's share of the imports, have the inestimable advantage of proximity. Japan, which likewise has good shipping services, comes next in the import tables, with the UK and Singapore neck and neck as third and fourth. In the export league, the UK and EEC together take 34.5 per cent with Japan not all that far behind with 23.7 per cent.

And the pros? Although aid has diversified since independence, Britain's £26 million aid programme for the years 1978–82 remains top of the list. And this excludes about £3 million a year provided annually under the separate technical co-operation programme for training abroad and the provision of experts. Of the main £26 million, £18 million is for development aid, £5 million is set aside to help the Solomons' government to buy into 'economically strategic', profitable and expanding enterprises within the country, and the remaining £3 million is for budgetary aid.

Lever's Pacific Timbers 'log pond' near Ringi Cove, Kolombangara, where timber is loaded onto ships for export. (Photo: Department of Information, Solomon Islands)

As most UK aid is tied to British goods and services, the programme will continue to produce opportunities for British exporters and consultants. A number of examples spring to mind: the supply of at least two small ships is in prospect; government acquisition of shares in the local airline, Solomon Islands Airways Ltd ('Solair'), could provide the funds needed for two more aircraft; the government printer is to be re-equipped; more roadmaking and other heavy plant is to be supplied, together with a year's stockpile of building materials; and, of course, opportunities should also arise from aid provided by Australia, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the World Bank, the European development fund (EDF), New Zealand and others. The EDF and Japan, as well as the UK, are involved in no fewer than five telecommunication projects under aid arrangements.

Looking a little further ahead, a small hydro-electric station (initially 5MW, ultimately 20MW) is to be built on the Lungga River near Honiara with aid from both ADB and Australia. (Solomon Islands Electricity Authority, PO Box 6, Honiara), and a $1.5 million (£850,000) deep-water wharf complex with its own generator units will be built at Noro, New Georgia Island.

Crown Agents are closely concerned with procurement and shipping of goods bought under British aid arrangements. It is well worth keeping in close touch with the Crown Agents at 4 Millbank, London SW1.

Commercial scene

By world standards the commercial scene here is miniscule, but it has not been neglected by our commercial rivals and business activity has sharply increased in this first year of independence.

Honiara has three hotels (Mendana, Honiara and Hibiscus), three trading banks (Hong Kong and Shanghai; Australia, New Zealand; and Commonwealth of Australia Trading and Savings Bank), and there is an active chamber of commerce.

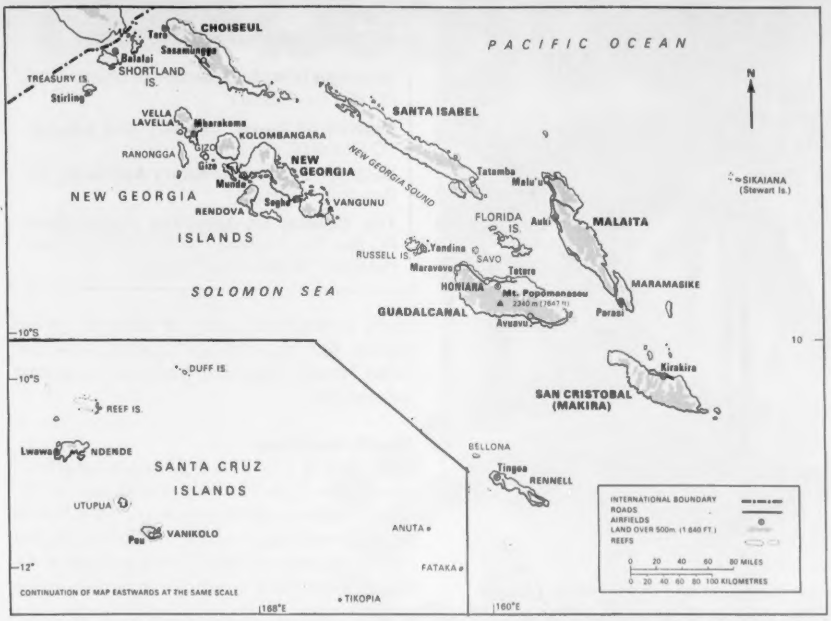
Well-known British brands are in evidence in the (small) supermarkets and hardware stores, and British vehicles, especially Land Rovers, are if anything on the increase. The fact that there are some 280 British aid personnel in the islands has helped but so has the rising cost of our competitors' products.

Recently we have had inquiries from traders interested in importing hardware, electrical appliances, hi-fi equipment, plastic kitchenware, china and crystal direct from the UK. Some products made in Britain at present reach the Solomons via other countries; no doubt there are good commercial reasons for this, but the added freight and other charges blunt the competitive edge.

British prominence

British firms are already prominent in primary

THE SOLOMON ISLANDS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RANONGGA
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NEW GEORGIA
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Seghe
VANGUNU
SANTA ISABEL
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Lwawa
NDENDE
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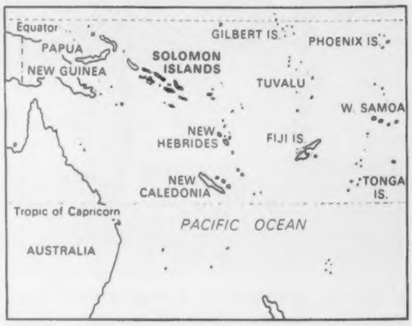
Equator
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SOLOMON ISLANDS
GILBERT IS.
PHOENIX IS.
TUVALU
W. SAMOA
NEW HEBRIDES
FIJI IS.
NEW CALEDONIA
TONGA IS.
Tropic of Capricorn
PACIFIC OCEAN
AUSTRALIA

industries, the backbone of the economy. Lever's Pacific Timbers is operating in Kolombangara and, with active support from the Solomons' government, hopes to obtain added timber rights to extend operations in neighbouring New Georgia.

The Commonwealth Development Corporation has put something like £5 million into a partnership with the government, Solomon Islands Plantations Ltd, to develop an oil palm industry (supplemented soon by cocoa) on Guadalcanal Plains, near Honiara. Local land-owners also have a share in the venture, which is proving a remarkable success.

Agreement is expected soon on yet another joint venture between Lever's Plantations Ltd (LPL) and the government. This could lead to not only expansion of the already considerable copra estates of LPL but also to substantial diversification into cocoa, and rather less into cattle.

It is worth mentioning that British aid was also used last October by the Solomons' government to acquire a 45 per cent share of Brewer Solomons Agriculture Ltd, which produces rice in Guadalcanal for both internal consumption and export.

In fishing, where UK aid has been used to provide equipment and expertise, the government holds 25 per cent and the Japanese 75 per cent of Solomon Taiyo, which exports canned, frozen and smoked tuna.

British teams are currently undertaking geological and hydro-geological surveys, and two companies are engaged in prospecting. Considerable reserves of bauxite have been proved at West Rennell and Wagina with feasibility studies by Japanese and Australian companies but, because of market conditions, full-scale operations have not yet begun.

Inward investment

Light industries operate on the outskirts of Honiara but secondary industry does not yet play a significant part in the economy. The government seeks to attract more inward investment and to stimulate trade abroad, and has established a commercial investment committee (PO Box G10, Honiara) which will be pleased to send literature to potential investors. In selected cases the government offers tax holidays, pioneer status, import duty concessions and tariff protection for new companies. There is a double taxation agreement with the UK. The rate of company tax for both private and public companies is 30 per cent.

The government is particularly interested in inward investment in large-scale development of natural resources and welcomes soundly-based investment proposals which provide for a fair sharing of benefits between the investors and the Solomon islanders. Commercial investment committee literature states that no restriction is place on remittances and dividends, profits and other earnings net of tax due to overseas residents, and that approval is also

Cattle are being bred on a large scale in the Solomon Islands in one of the many projects assisted under the British aid programme. (Photo: Department of Information)

Some useful addresses:

Solomon Islands Chamber of Commerce: PO Box 64, Honiara

Ministry of Trade, Industry and Labour PO Box G10, Honiara

Solomon Islands Monetary Authority: PO Box 634, Honiara

The Central Co-operative Association: PO Box 151, Honiara The British High Commission, PO Box 676, Honiara.

given to the repatriation of overseas owned capital. But inquirers should write to the Solomon Islands Monetary Authority for precise information.

Worth watching

That then is a brief and probably superficial view of the Solomon Islands and some of the opportunities it offers as a market for British firms. To sum up, a small and distant market but one worth watching – and perhaps visiting, particularly if your firm is already active in the region.

Solomon Islands trade

Imports by country

SI $'000

	Jan-Dec 1978	Jan-Dec 1977	Jan-Dec 1976
Commonwealth			
Australia	10 307	8 196	7 963
Papua New Guinea	1 112	686	899
New Zealand	1 941	1 245	1 078
Fiji/other Pacific	72	22	19
Hong Kong	1 306	870	596
Singapore	3 121	3 628	2 365
India/Pakistan/Sri Lanka and Bangladesh	293	186	46
United Kingdom	3 176	3 494	2 002
Others	345	334	201
Total	21 675	18 661	15 168
Foreign			
Japan	4 013	3 203	2 735
China	994	730	506
Other Far East	200	207	115
Middle East	110	159	300
USSR/East Europe	176	90	33
West Germany	1 261	472	435
Netherlands	17	67	25
France	276	171	130
Other western Europe	608	229	354
USA	1 347	1 388	1 054
Others	30	83	37
Total	9 031	6 800	5 722
Parcel post	280	292	198
Total	30 984	25 753	21 088

Imports by country (percentage)

	Jan-Dec 1978	Jan-Dec 1977	Jan-Dec 1976
Commonwealth			
Australia	33.3	31.8	37.8
Papua New Guinea	3.6	2.7	4.3
New Zealand	6.3	4.8	5.1
Hong Kong	4.2	3.4	2.8
Singapore	10.1	14.1	11.2
United Kingdom	10.3	13.6	9.5
Others	2.2	2.1	1.2
Total	70.0	72.5	71.9
Foreign			
Japan	13.0	12.4	13.0
China	3.2	2.8	2.4
West Germany	4.1	1.8	2.1
USA	4.3	5.4	5.0
Others	4.5	3.9	4.7
Total	29.1	26.4	27.2
Parcel post	0.9	1.1	0.9
Total	*100.0*	*100.0*	*100.0*

Exports by country

SI $'000

	Jan-Dec 1978	Jan-Dec 1977	Jan-Dec 1976
Commonwealth			
Australia	961	564	553
Papua New Guinea	372	520	127
New Zealand	392	395	144
Fiji/other Pacific	1 019	235	317
Hong Kong	84	98	49
Singapore	3 116	610	504
United Kingdom	6 232	4 342	2 519
Others	2	—	—
Total	12 177	6 764	4 214
Foreign			
Japan	7 395	7 367	6 797
West Germany	994	920	511
Netherlands	3 005	1 680	1 543
France	485	422	117
Denmark	—	1 169	583
Sweden	—	2 315	308
USA	1 479	1 519	24
American Samoa	1 982	2 257	2 385
Puerto Rico	326	1 672	2 482
TTPI	1 432	1 760	344
Others	1 871	1 770	642
	18 969	22 850	15 737
Total	31 146	29 614	19 952

Exports by country (percentages)

	Jan-Dec 1978	Jan-Dec 1977	Jan-Dec 1976
Commonwealth			
Australia	3.1	1.9	2.8
Papua New Guinea	1.2	1.8	0.6
New Zealand	1.3	1.3	0.7
Hong Kong	0.3	0.3	0.2
Singapore	10.0	2.1	2.5
United Kingdom	20.0	14.7	12.6
Others	3.2	0.7	1.6
Total	39.1	22.8	21.0
Foreign			
Japan	23.7	24.9	34.1
West Germany	3.2	3.1	2.6
Netherlands	9.7	5.7	7.7
France	1.6	1.4	0.6
Denmark	—	4.0	2.9
Sweden	—	7.8	1.5
USA	4.8	5.1	0.1
American Samoa	6.4	7.6	12.0
Puerto Rico	1.0	5.6	12.4
TTPI	4.6	5.9	1.7
Others	5.9	6.1	3.4
	60.9	77.2	79.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Imports by commodity group, 1976-1978

SI $'000

Commodity group	Jan-Dec 1978	Jan-Dec 1977	Jan-Dec 1976
Food	5 049	4 076	3 488
Beverages and tobacco	1 466	1 220	1 003
Crude materials inedible	241	180	130
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related material	3 547	3 542	2 700
Animal and vegetable oils and fats	170	277	215
Chemicals	2 779	2 048	1 563
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	5 840	4 578	3 830
Machinery and transport equipment	8 564	7 002	6 243
Misc. manufactured articles	3 048	2 538	1 718
Misc. transactions and commodities n.e.s.	282	292	198
Total	30 984	25 753	21 088

Exports by commodity group 1976–1978

SI $'000

	Jan-Dec 1978	Jan-Dec 1977	Jan-Dec 1976
Food	9 044	9 255	7 694
Beverages and tobacco	94	117	78
Crude materials inedible	15 924	16 372	10 168
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	—	—	—
Animal and vegetable oils and fats	4 653	2 894	1 160
Chemicals	—	—	—
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	—	—	—
Machinery and transport equipment	—	—	—
Misc. manufactured articles	—	—	—
Misc. transactions and commodities n.e.s.	1 431	976	852
Total	31 146	29 614	19 952

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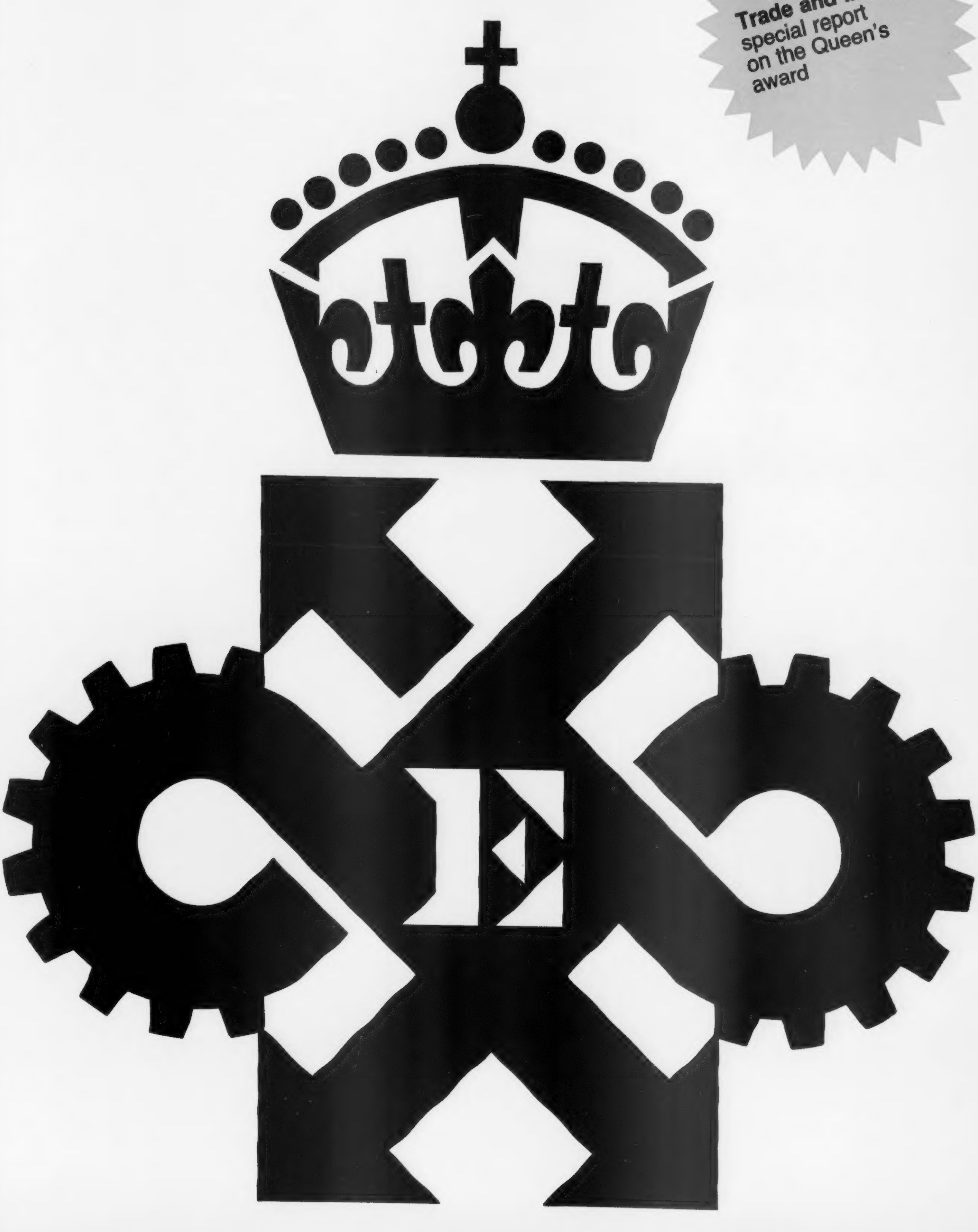
The best of British '79

Trade and Industry
special report
on the Queen's
award



1979

Davy International (Oil & Chemicals) Limited is honoured to have gained The Queen's Award for Export Achievement for 1979 both by opening new markets in the Middle East and by continuing to develop existing markets worldwide.

Davy International (Oil & Chemicals) Limited is an international company covering all stages of process plant design and construction in industries producing oil and gas (onshore and offshore), chemicals, petrochemicals, monomers and plastics.

This is the fourth Queen's Award for Export Achievement to be won by Davy International (Oil & Chemicals) Limited out of a total of thirteen Queen's Awards won by Davy companies.

Davy

Davy International (Oil & Chemicals) Ltd
8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA. Tel: 01-486 6677 Telex: 22527

A Davy Corporation Company

The best of British '79

Trade and Industry special report

Published with the 11 May 1979 issue

Trade and Industry editorial address:
Eighth floor, 1 Victoria Street,
London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 5730

Below left: **technology** the new plant for BDH's production of liquid crystals

Below: **exports,** Microwave dishes in Bahrain provided by Cable and Wireless

Recipients of the Queen's Awards for Export and Technology 1979 represent a wide spread of industrial and commercial activity and size of company in Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and all regions of England. A total of 121 awards were announced on the Queen's birthday, 21 April: 102 for export achievement and 19 for technological achievement.

A substantial and sustained increase in export earnings to a level which is outstanding for the products or services concerned and for the size of the applicant's operations is the main criterion on which recommendations for export awards are based. In the area of technology, the criterion is a significant advance, leading to increased efficiency, in the application of technology to a production or development process in British industry or the production for sale of goods which incorporate new and advanced technological qualities.

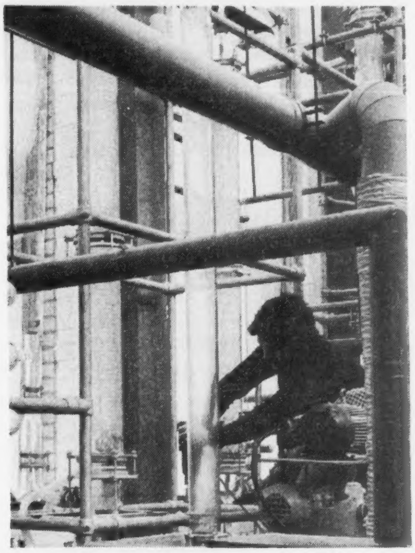
The awards differ from personal honours in that they are given to the industrial unit as a whole – management and employees working as a team. Units holding an award are entitled to fly the appropriate award flag and to display the emblem on their letterheadings, in advertising, on the packaging of goods produced in this country, on the goods themselves, and on articles used by employees such as lapel badges, neckties, cuff-links and brooches.

An award is held for a period of five years. A holder of an award can apply for consideration in subsequent years and receive a further award in respect of new outstanding achievement beyond that recognised by the previous award. This year, 17 awards for export achievement and four awards for technological achievement are made to units holding current awards granted in previous years.

The number of applications received for this year's awards was 1640. Awards are made by the Queen on the advice of the Prime Minister who is assisted by an advisory committee which includes representatives of industry, commerce, trade unions, and engineering institutions.

Two subordinate committees examine the separate export and technology applications.

Details of all the export and technology award winners are given in the following pages.



technology

and exports

Hip Hip Hooray, Hip Hip Hooray.

We at Pullman Kellogg feel doubly honoured and doubly privileged to announce our second consecutive Queen's Award for Export Achievement.

The awards stand in bold testimony to the hard work by the people of the Pullman Kellogg Division of Pullman Incorporated in the United Kingdom. Work that has led to a substantial increase in exports during 1975, 1976, and 1977.

Plants designed and engineered by Kellogg people in the U.K. are located throughout Europe, the Middle East, and Africa. And much of the equipment and materials exported to the construction sites is procured by Kellogg from British manufacturers with financing assistance by British institutions.

The spirit of cooperation we have in common with our suppliers and our financial institutions has proved itself again.

Pullman Kellogg
Engineers of Energy

Pullman Kellogg Limited
Kellogg International Corporation
The Pullman Kellogg Building, Wembley, Middlesex, HA9 0EE, England

technology

BDH Chemicals

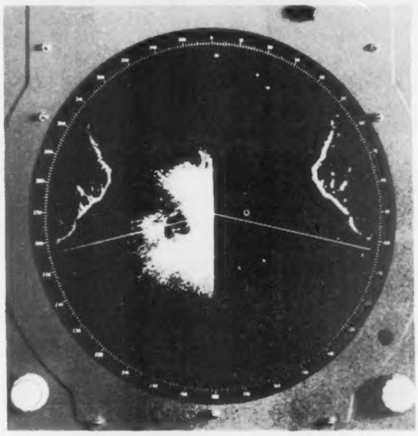
BDH Chemicals gained the award jointly with the solid state physics and devices division of the Royal Signals and Radar Establishment and the department of chemistry, University of Hull for their work in research, development and large-scale commercial production of biphenyl liquid crystals, now taking an estimated 50 per cent of world markets. Around 1970 the Royal Signals and Radar Establishment foresaw that liquid-crystal devices could become an important component in consumer and professional electronic products, but that development would be hindered without synthesis of a stable liquid-crystal material. Subsequent efforts by the three recipients of the award have led to the development of a series of biphenyl mixtures which synthesised on a large scale and effectively marketed have gained for the UK the major share of this rapidly expanding market. Some 98 per cent of all biphenyl liquid-crystal production at BDH Chemical's Poole laboratories is exported.

Chance-Pilkington's optical division

The development and successful exploitation of Reactolite photochromic lenses gained the optical division of Chance-Pilkington its award. This new generation of photochromic lenses made a significant advance over previous types, darkening to sunglass density in 30 seconds and fading halfway back in two minutes.

Decca Radar

Decca's award is for the development of the Clearscan marine radar display clarification technique. Clearscan automatically suppresses both sea and rain clutter and can also provide further enhancement of the radar picture by suppressing own receiver noise, brightening weak echoes, suppressing other ships' radar interference, and enlarging echoes on long-range scales. This is the fourth award for technological achievement gained by Decca Radar. Two awards for export achievement have also been won.



Clearer radar with Clearscan.

Esso Petroleum's Fawley refinery

The award goes to Esso's Fawley refinery for developing techniques to enable N-methyl pyrrodlidone to replace the more toxic solvent phenol in its lube-oil extraction plant. After conversion, the plant showed an energy saving of 25 per cent and minor injuries to operators from solvent burns were eliminated.

GEC Computers

The award goes to GEC Computers for the development of computers to control multi-interactive processes, providing software security and protection without sacrifice of operating speeds.

The department of chemistry, University of Hull

(See BDH Chemicals)

ICI's pharmaceuticals division

ICI's pharmaceuticals division gains the award for the development of the prostaglandin analogue cloprostenol which allows significant improvements in the productivity of livestock. The development enables the farmer to synchronise oestrus in groups of animals and plan his breeding programme with some precision, particularly valuable with increasing herd sizes. It will help to ensure the highest quality of stock in the UK and elsewhere, for optimising the commercial yield of beef and dairy cattle. This will be the third Queen's Award for Technological Achievement gained by the division.

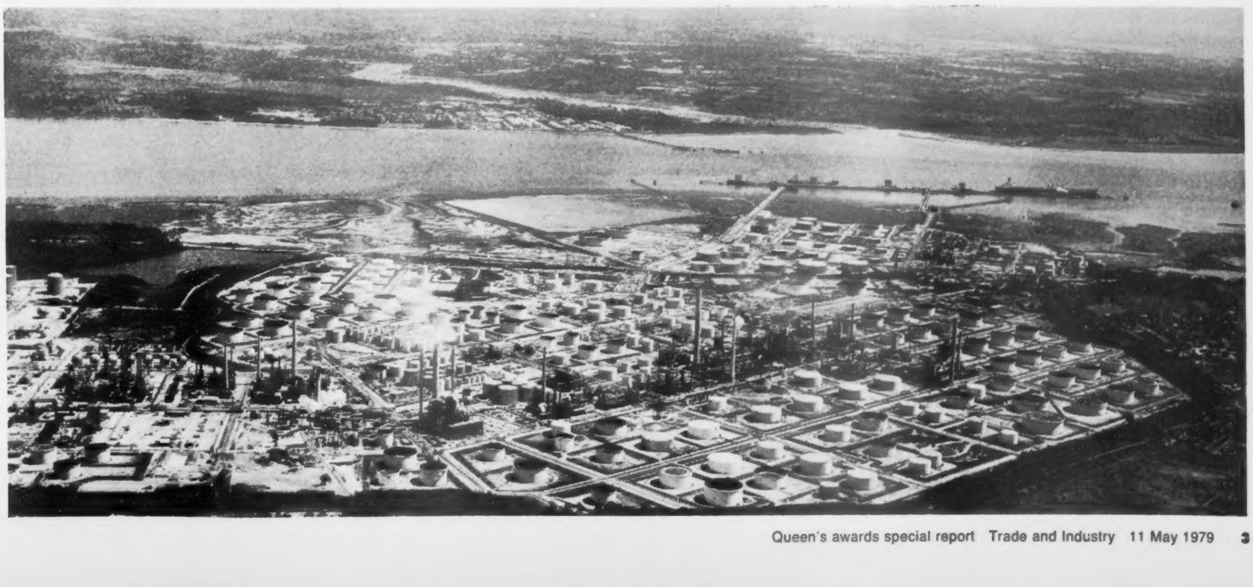
Kearney and Trecker Marwin

A subsidiary of Vickers Ltd, Kearney and Trecker Marwin, gains the award for the development of a series of machining centres. The concept behind the series is to put together standardised sub-assemblies in optimum configurations to suit different requirements. It is claimed that among the advantages of this approach are reduced unit costs and substantial reduction in the training period when subsequent models are introduced.

The Royal Signals and Radar Establishment's electronic materials division

The electronic materials division of the Royal Signals and Radar Establishment gains

Esso's Fawley refinery.



The best of British technology

Dr Sturgeon, research director BDH with quality control equipment for liquid crystals.

the award for the development of equipment and techniques for crystal growth. The equipment uses a process of liquid encapsulation in a high-pressure crystal pulling system capable of producing high-quality single crystals. Further developments have enabled the system to be operated entirely automatically giving crystals more perfect than those grown using manual control by skilled operators.

The Royal Signals and Radar Establishment's solid state physics and devices division
(See BDH Chemicals)

Moore and Wright (Sheffield)
This award goes jointly to Moore and Wright (Sheffield) and Patscentre International for development of the Micro 2000 electronic digital micrometer. This represents a radical new design of a traditional engineering product, incorporating a state of the art in electronics and optical systems in a package which is functional, aesthetically pleasing and competitively priced. The project involved the management of the transfer of the design, involving the latest integrated-circuit, silicon-chip technology, from development into production and successful commercial exploitation.

The National Coal Board's mining research and development establishment
The mining research and development establishment gains the award for development of techniques for the measurement of harmful respirable dust by means of selective sampling in the MRE gravimetric dust sampler and its subsequent control. This is the second Queen's Award for Technological Achievement gained by the establishment.

Nuclear Enterprises
The award goes to Nuclear Enterprises, a member of the EMI Group, for the development of a radioimmunoassay counter. It provides a sensitive means of measuring the radioactive content of medical and biological samples. It employs an array of 16 matched detectors producing a sampling rate about 16 times as fast as conventional automated systems. This is the second award gained by the company for technological achievement.

The PA Management Consultants' Patscentre international division
(See Moore and Wright (Sheffield))

Pfizer central research division
The central research division of Pfizer Ltd, whose ultimate parent company is Pfizer Inc of the United States, gains the award for the development of oxamniquine a drug which acts specifically against the tropical disease caused by *schistosoma mansoni.* This is a worm parasite, responsible for a chronic, debilitating disease which affects at least 50 million people in the third world. Oxamniquine which was discovered and developed at Sandwich, Kent is now included in the World Health Organisation's publication 'Selection of Essential Drugs 1977'.

Portex
This company, a subsidiary of Smiths Industries Ltd, gains the award for development of surgical and medical plastics products, in particular, endotracheal and tracheostomy tubes, anaesthetic and intensive care systems.

Racal Communications
The development of a range of high-performance hf communications receivers gains Racal its second successive Queen's Award for Technological Achievement. The receivers have a performance close to the theoretical limits in all aspects of performance and at the same time the design achieves compactness, versatility and user convenience. It contributes significantly to the improvement in reliability of hf radio communications.

Rothwell Plant Breeders
Rothwell Plant Breeders, a wholly owned subsidiary of Shell Petroleum, gains the award for the development of an industrial system for breeding and evaluation of spring barley varieties. The most recent varieties show significant yield improvement coupled with good disease resistance and better quality for both feed and malting. Varieties such as Georgic, Ark Royal and Sundance are some of the most highly rated, displacing improved varieties which have dominated in recent years.

Tate and Lyle Engineering's Talo products and processes division
Tate and Lyle's Talo division gains the award for developing a process for removing impurities in sugar processing. The process represents a major advance in the refining of raw cane sugar. Since its introduction, it has been adopted in most new cane sugar refineries, and it is used in the production of one-fifth of the world's refined cane sugar.

Racal's hf receiver at a Post Office station.

1979
THE QUEEN'S AWARD
FOR TECHNOLOGICAL ACHIEVEMENT

We have much pleasure in announcing that the Queen's Award for Technological Achievement has been conferred on the Company.

The award has been made for work, in collaboration with the Royal Signals & Radar Establishment and the Department of Chemistry, Hull University on Liquid Crystal Display Materials.

BDH

BDH Chemicals Ltd the world's largest manufacturer of Liquid Crystal Display Materials. Manufacturer of 'Optran', crystal growing materials and 'Crystran' single crystal products for the opto-electronics industry

BDH Chemicals Ltd Poole Dorset BH12 4NN England

TRUNK

TRAILERS THAT LEAD THE WAY

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HOLDERS OF THE QUEEN'S AWARD FOR EXPORT ACHIEVEMENT 1979

TRUNK TRAILER CO LTD

We are proud to have received the above award for all our success in exporting the Trunk Trailer Product range to the Middle East, Africa and Scandinavia in the face of stiff competition.

Trunk Trailer design and manufacture a wide range of standard or custom built trailers for the British and overseas transport market. A Highly qualified design team have ensured that the trailers are produced to the highest specification and amongst their many innovations are a new Curtain Wall trailer and the 'Warlord' triple axle for heavy loads over rough terrain.

For further information contact: **Trunk Trailer Co. Ltd., Deans Industrial Estate, Livingston, Scotland, Telephone: Livingston (0589) 34141/2/3. Telex: 727255.**

1970 1974

1974 1979

Our performance hasn't gone unnoticed.

JCB is proud to have been honoured by four Queen's Awards in less than a decade. Three for export and one for technological achievement.

A creditable performance by any standards. Especially when JCB's prime objective has always been to build, and sell, the world's finest earthmoving machines. Not necessarily to win awards.

Since 1975, JCB has more than doubled turnover to a record £104 million in 1978, some 60% of which came from exports. In spite of a weak $ which favoured the giant USA manufacturers. In spite of a general market recession. In spite of tough, price-cutting competition.

It says a lot for the quality of JCB design, technology, and management; for its investment in people, facilities and environment; and for the dedicated commitment of its workforce, worldwide.

The largest British-owned manufacturer and exporter of earthmoving equipment.

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9999/3045

exports

An Aquascutum cotton coat

Aerofill

A subsidiary of John Lelliatt (Holdings) Ltd, Aerofill is the sole UK manufacturer of aerosol filling machinery. The company is involved in converting aerosol fillers to hydrocarbon propellants, and has increased market shares in the process, in the face of strong foreign competition. Its principal export markets are western Europe, Australia, South Africa and South America.

Agemaspark

Agemaspark, in which the National Enterprise Board has a 30 per cent holding, designs and manufactures spark erosion machines and generators. It is highly export orientated. Markets have been established in France, Italy, Germany, Austria, South Africa, Sweden, Brazil, Thailand, Australia, Canada and Greece and new markets have recently been opened up in New Zealand, Portugal and Spain.

Airwork Services

Airwork Services, a subsidiary of Air Holdings Ltd and a member of The British Commonwealth Group, provides support and maintenance services including specialist training for overseas air forces, and exports aircraft and vehicle spare parts and training aids. It also operates a flying engineering and English language training school in the UK providing tuition for foreign students. The company markets it services in Oman, Dubai, West Germany, Qatar, Libya and Sudan.

Allday Aluminium

Part of the Crest Nicholson Group, Allday Aluminium's business is boatbuilding, general engineering and aluminium fabrication. It has been particularly successful with its range of aluminium work boats.

Aluminium Wire and Cable

Aluminium Wire and Cable manufactures aluminium rod and wire in a range of purities and alloys for both electrical and general engineering applications. Bare stranded aluminium conductors are produced for overhead transmission and distribution lines. The company also manufactures insulated aluminium power cables and supplies a comprehensive range of accessories for both overhead conductors and insulated cables.

Anglo Blackwells

Part of the metals division of BOC Ltd, Anglo Blackwells was formed in 1975 from two smaller firms to produce aluminium master alloys, alloys for catalyst production and other miscellaneous alloys. It has export markets in West Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Spain, Norway, Sweden, Netherlands and Belgium.

Aquascutum

Well-known as manufacturers and distributor of high-quality clothing for men and women, Aquascutum exports to 42 countries worldwide which represents all those to which exports are permitted. Exports represent 62 per cent of group sales. It gained awards in 1966, 1971 and 1976.

Avalon Chemical

Avalon Chemicals, a subsidiary of Avalon Industries, manufactures synthetic resin and adhesives, mainly for the footwear industry. It has a highly technical, export-orientated marketing organisation. Its markets include Scandinavia, north America, Middle East and eastern Europe.

Badger

A subsidiary of the Badger Co Inc of the United States, Badger provides process and project evaluation, design, engineering, procurement and construction supervisory services connected with the international oil refining, petrochemical and fertiliser industries. The company does business in several west European markets, the Middle East, Africa and eastern Europe.

Barcrest

Barcrest, a subsidiary of Bass Ltd, manufactures microprocessor-based gaming and amusement machines. It exports to the Netherlands, Switzerland and Austria.

Baxters Scottish Game

Baxters Scottish Game, a small firm, prepares, freezes and markets Scottish game products, principally deer carcases, venison primal cuts, grouse, pheasants and hares. Markets include West Germany, Norway, Austria and Denmark.

Beanstalk Shelving

Beanstalk makes steel display shelving for shops and exports to Europe, Scandinavia and the Middle East.

Beecham Products Overseas

Beecham Products Overseas which exports toiletries, proprietary medicines, health and soft drinks is a branch of Beecham Group Ltd, Main export markets are the near East, Middle East, Europe, north Africa, north America and the Caribbean.

Bermans and Nathans

Bermans and Nathans is an old established company of film, television and theatrical costumiers and costume exhibition contractors. The company stocks hire costumes of every period and exports its services to Germany, France, the Benelux Countries, United States, Australia and Scandinavia.

Bertlin and Partners

Consulting engineers handling a wide range of civil engineering projects, particularly ports and harbours, docks, shipyards, coast protection, land development and reclamation, bridges, yacht harbours and structural engineering. Bertlin and Partners exports its services to 10 markets in Europe, Africa, India, the Middle East and Algeria.

A Bertlin and Partners' project.

The best of British exports

Biozyme Laboratories

Biozyme Laboratories, formed in 1971, specialises in the manufacture of enzymes and related biochemicals. Despite the problems of transporting such products over long distances, the company has succeeded in exporting to western Europe, Scandinavia, Brazil, Japan, Australia, Canada and the United States.

Bonas Machine

Bonas Machine designs and manufactures needle looms for making fabrics up to 220 mm wide, and also manufactures automatic diamond polishing machines. It regularly exports its machines to over 50 countries worldwide. The company was an award winner in 1967 and 1969.

Borg-Warner's York division

The York division of Borg-Warner Ltd, a subsidiary of Borg-Warner Corporation of the United States, manufactures air-conditioning and refrigeration equipment. Export markets include western Europe, South America, Australasia, Hong Kong, Mexico and the Middle East.

British Aerospace's Stevenage/Bristol division

The Stevenage/Bristol division of British Aerospace manufactures guided weapon systems and components and has achieved notable successes with Swingfire and Rapier.

British Midland Airways

British Midland Airways overseas earnings come from the leasing of aircraft complete with crews, ground handling and technical support plus marketing and training services where these are required. This 'instant airline' service is used principally by emergent countries setting up their own flag-carrying airline and by international carriers in times of passenger capacity shortfalls. Recent growth in export sales has come principally from the north African and Middle Eastern markets.

British Smelter Constructions

An engineering and contracting organisation specialising in the construction of aluminium smelters, British Smelter Constructions has secured the management contract for a very large smelter and desalination plant at Dubai costing approximately £550 million and designed to produce 135 000 tons of aluminium per annum.

James Buchanan

A subsidiary of The Distillers Company, James Buchanan is a leading producer of a range of well-known Scotch whiskies, including Black and White. Buchanan's market coverage is worldwide involving some 170 countries.

Burberry's wholesale and export division

Burberry's, a subsidiary of the Great Universal Stores, manufactures high-quality men's and women's weather proof clothing and overcoats. The principal export markets are western Europe, north America and the Far East. Previous awards were gained in 1966, 1971 and 1975.

Cable and Wireless

Cable and Wireless is an internationally known company whose overseas earnings are from the provision and operation of public telecommunications, the provision of private telecommunication facilities and consultancy, and the operation of a fleet of six cableships. The company has secured a contract to provide telecommunication facilities to the Saudi Arabian National Guard valued in excess of £200 million.

Camvac Holdings

Camvac Holdings is a small firm engaged in the metallisation and coating of plastic films and papers for use in the electronic/electrical and packaging industries and for wallcoverings. It exports to Europe, the United States, Australia, the Far and Near East, South Africa and Brazil. A subsidiary, Vacuum Research Ltd, was an award winner in 1968.

Capper-Neill

Capper-Neill is the parent of a group of around 40 companies mostly in the process plant area of international construction, but also covering a variety of other engineering activities.

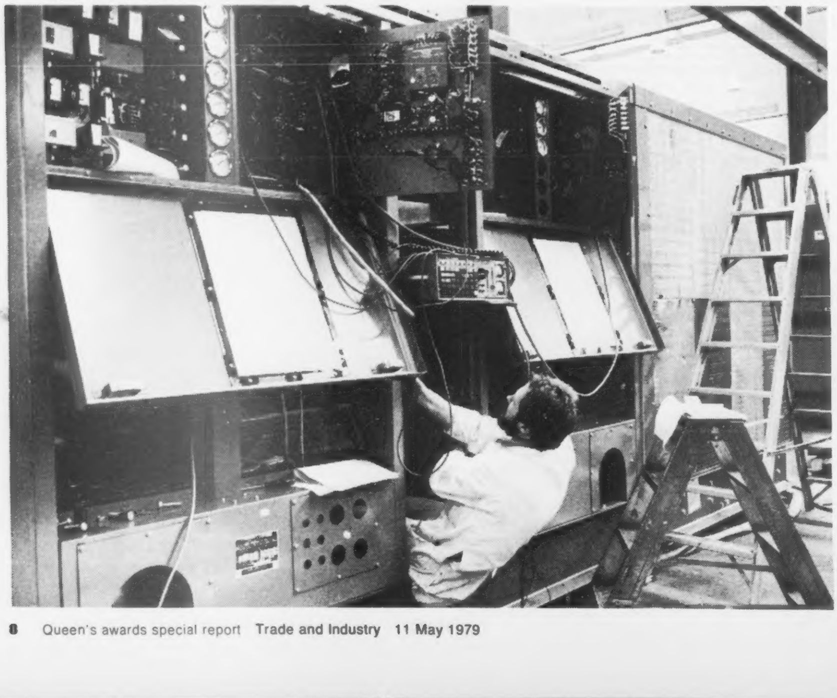
Catalytic International

This American owned company whose London unit was set-up in 1964, is a process plant contractor concentrating on hydrocarbon, chemical, and associated process plant projects and is part of a consortium building one of the world's largest pvc plants in Wloclaweck in Poland.

Caterpillar Tractor's forklift truck plant

The Leicester plant of Caterpillar Tractor, a subsidiary of Caterpillar Tractor Co of the United States, manufactures a wide range of forklift trucks tailored to the varied requirements of users. Major export markets are Europe, the Middle East, north Africa, central and southern Africa. Regular sales are also made in the Far East and the Indian subcontinent.

A Borg-Warner liquid chiller under test.



British Aerospace's Rapier missile under test.

BUSINESS BOOKS

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GUIDE TO
PRODUCT
LIABILITY
by
Janner

JANNER'S PRODUCT LIABILITY

Greville Janner

Title: **Janner's Product Liability**

Author: GREVILLE JANNER, QC, MP

ISBN: 0 220 67008 0

Published by: BUSINESS E
24 Highbury
London
N5 1RX
Reg. No. 12C

Manufacturers, distributors and even retailers are rightly anxious at the advance of *'product liability'*. But while recognising the profound impact which new law may have on their business profits, few have either understood or (still less) guarded against past or future changes.

> "How far will your liability for defects in your products be affected by statements that you made about them in order to induce your purchaser to buy?"

Two law commissions, the Pearson Commission (the Royal Commission on Civil Liability) and a draft EEC Directive — all recommend the introduction of *product liability* into our legislation. *Product liability* is, however, creeping into our daily lives through court decisions — which is how it became established in the USA, France and West Germany.

> "If you know or ought to know of the danger, then you should take reasonable care to ensure that others are warned. Manufacturers owe a duty to distributors; distributors to retailers; retailers to customers; and doing the legal leap-frog, manufacturers to 'ultimate consumers'."

This book is designed as the businessman's practical and readable guide to this crucial area of the law. It explains the law on *product liability* as it exists today. It analyses liability in contract — and includes an entire section on the new rules on exclusion clauses. . .

> "The primary object of a Romalpa (retention of title) clause is to give the vendor rights against the Receiver of an insolvent purchaser. But could it not also acquire rights against a purchaser or sub-purchaser?"

. . . and how the Supply of Goods (Implied Terms) Act, 1973, and the Unfair Contract Terms Act, 1977, restrict those exclusions. It explains the 'tort' (or civil wrong) of negligence, and liability to the 'ultimate consumer' of the product.

> " 'Ultimate consumers'
> also business buyers; n
> employees — all those
> suffer as a result of you

It not only covers the crimina
contained in Section 6 of the
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The best of British exports

Church and Bramhall (Fencing)

Church and Bramhall produces and sells steel fencing systems, and has achieved considerable success in exporting to the Middle East and other world markets. For the last three years the company has more than doubled the previous year's export turnover.

Colchester Lathe

Colchester Lathe, a subsidiary of The 600 Group Ltd, manufacture centre lathes which are exported to over 100 countries. The company won previous awards in 1967, 1968, 1971 and 1975.

Concrete Utilities

Concrete Utilities was established in 1924 and manufactures street-lighting columns and masts made of steel and concrete and also footbridges, pontoons and other concrete products. Its export efforts are concentrated on the Middle East, Commonwealth countries and Portugal and for some large contracts the company provides, free of charge, supervision of the installation. The company has raised its export earnings 100-fold in the last 10 years.

Coopers and Lybrand Associates

Coopers and Lybrand Associates, the management consultancy company of chartered accountants Coopers and Lybrand, provides a wide range of management and economic consultancy services to public and private sector clients in Europe, Africa, the Middle East, Asia, the Caribbean and South America.

Crosfield Electronics

Crosfield Electronics is recognised as a world leader in advanced electronic equipment for processing and control in the graphic arts and printing industries. It has won two previous awards for technology and two for exports.

Cummins Engine's Daventry division

Cummins' Daventry division is the smallest of the UK Cummins Engine plants of which the parent company is Cummins Engine Co Inc group of the United States. The diesel engines manufactured at Daventry are for higher-horsepower industrial and construction applications and are widely exported to many parts of the world, including Europe, Japan, the United States, South Africa, Far East, Canada, South America, Iceland and Australia.

Davy International (Oil and Chemicals)

A subsidiary of Davy Corporation Ltd, Davy International (Oil and Chemicals) is an international contractor covering all stages of process plant design and construction in the oil and gas (onshore and offshore), chemicals, petrochemicals, monomers and plastics industries. Principal markets are in Brazil, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Poland, Spain, Sweden, USSR and Qatar and export earnings in 1978 were 91 per cent of total earnings.

Dawson International

Dawson International is the parent company of a number of subsidiaries which manufacture semi-processed textile raw materials, woollen yarns, fully fashioned knitwear, and womens' tailored skirts. The group's products which are exported worldwide, include the world famous Pringle, Braemar, Ballantyne, Barrie, McGeorge and Glenmac knitwear.

Alan Dick

Alan Dick and Co designs, makes and installs specialised steel structures for communication systems.

Edwards of Enfield

A small company, Edwards of Enfield specialises in the design and production of handling equipment and automated systems for the aluminium and non-ferrous metal industries. Exports cover some 30 countries and account for some 70 per cent of annual production.

Federal-Mogul Westwind Air Bearings

Federal-Mogul Westwind Air Bearings manufactures precision air bearings spindles for grinding, drilling, routing and dicing applications in both general industrial and electronic fields.

Froude Engineering

Froude Engineering designs and manufactures dynamometers and associated engine test equipment for all types of prime movers for aerospace marine automotive and industrial applications.

GKN Kent Alloys

GKN Kent Alloys makes aluminium alloy passenger car wheels for original equipment fitment for sales in Europe and the United States.

Giltspur Precision Industries

A small company, Giltspur Precision Industries, manufactures industrial sewing machines for the fur, shoe, textile and mattress industries. The machines are of particularly robust construction and can survive in the most adverse conditions. Export markets include Greece, and various other European countries, USSR, South America and China.

Giltspur's sewing machine for fine furs such as mink.

Haddow Aird and Crerar

Haddow Aird and Crerar manufactures lace, curtains, bedspreads, tablecloths, etc made of cotton, Terylene and Dralon using traditional designs combined with modern yarns and finishing. Products are exported to more than 20 countries worldwide.

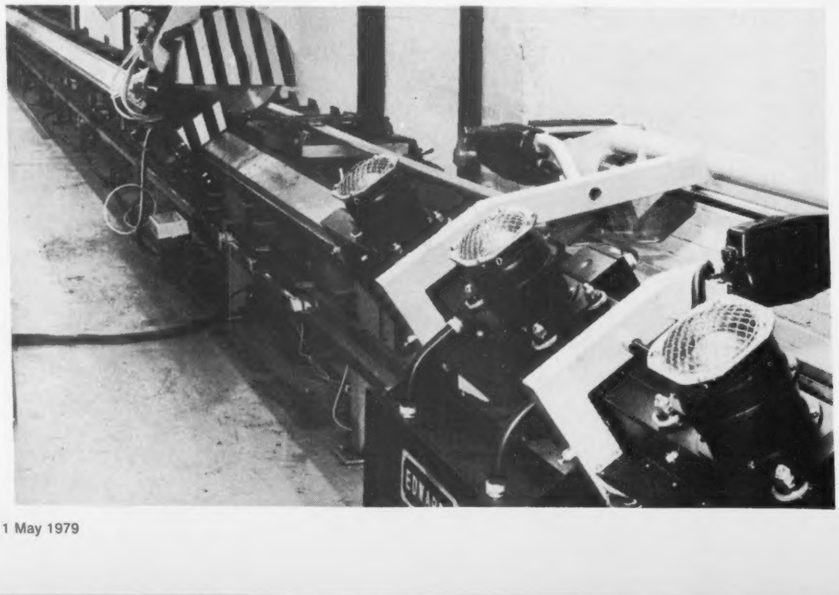
William Hollins' fabrics division

William Hollins, a subsidiary of Carrington Viyella, is a spinner and manufacturer of blended wool and cotton flannel fabrics sold under the well known 'Viyella' and 'Clydella' brand names. Its main overseas markets are north America, western Europe and Australasia.

Hughes International

Hughes International manufacture buses and luxury coaches.

An Edward's extrusion machine powered by linear motors.



1979

EDWARDS OF ENFIELD LIMITED
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Specialist engineers to the world's aluminium
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We are very proud of our Queen's Award for Export Achievement. Our 300 strong team of managers, engineers, designers and administrators have won it by providing our integrated engineering contracting, and operations and maintenance services world-wide, and by increasing export sales threefold. At the same time, we are very grateful to all our clients in the chlor-alkali, refinery, polymer, petrochemical, pharmaceutical and fine chemical industries. Our thanks are also due to the British financial institutions and suppliers, without whose help we would not have been so honoured by Her Majesty.

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CATALYTIC INTERNATIONAL INC.
48 Leicester Square, London WC2H 7LZ, England. Telephone: 01-839 4377. Telex: 23200.

1979

The best of British exports

IMI Norgren

IMI Norgren, a subsidiary of IMI Ltd, manufactures a wide range of compressed-air processing and associated equipment. The company exports to Europe, the Near East, Far East, Australia, India and South Africa, New markets have been gained recently in Poland and China.

Imperial Chemical Industries' pharmaceuticals division

ICI's pharmaceuticals division manufactures and sells a wide range of pharmaceutical products. The division has already received seven awards for exports dating back to 1966.

JCB Sales

JCB Sales is a sales and marketing company dealing in a range of construction and materials-handling equipment, mainly wheeled and tracked excavators and loaders. It exports to over 100 countries and was a previous award winner in 1974.

Kinloch Anderson's manufacturing division

Kinloch Anderson manufactures high-quality ladies' clothing specialising in Scottish tartans and tweeds. It exports principally to western Europe, north America and Japan and has a subsidiary in the United States which also represents several other British clothing and textile companies as exclusive agents and distributors.

Lancy (Effluent Treatment)

Lancy manufactures effluent treatment plant and concentrates on the problems dealing with toxic elements from metal-finishing operations.

Lingarden

Lingarden is the largest of the UK horticultural marketing co-operatives which markets and distributes the flowers and flower bulbs grown by co-operatives members. Despite strong home competition, the company exports to eight different European countries, including Holland.

Lipton Export

The primary activity of Lipton Export is blending and packaging tea. It also markets coffee, instant drinks, herbal infusions, jams and soups. The Middle East and Scandinavia are the most important of the company's worldwide markets.

Longman Group

Longman, a member of the Pearson Longman Group, is one of the largest UK educational publishers. School, university and professional books, medical books, books for learning English as a foreign language and journals are exported to all parts of the world.

MK Electric

MK Electric manufactures plugs, sockets and wiring accessories for industrial commercial and domestic purposes. This company exports to a wide range of markets and has increased its exports by almost 500 per cent in the last five years.

MacDonald Greenlees

Producers of a de-luxe Scotch whisky, Old Parr, MacDonald Greenlees, a subsidiary of The Distillers Co Ltd, exports its product to a wide range of countries with principal markets in Latin America, Japan and the Far East.

Marconi Space and Defence Systems' Frimley unit

Marconi's Frimley unit designs, develops and markets electronic equipment for defence, space and oceanographic requirements. The products include artillery fire control equipment and Blindfire radar for Rapier missiles, these products account for 97 per cent of the goods exported by the unit in 1978.

Mars' confectionery division

Mars' confectionery division, a subsidiary of Mars Inc of the United States, manufactures chocolate and sugar confectionery. Mars gained a previous award in 1974.

Miller Weblift

Miller Weblift, a small but rapidly growing company is a subsidiary of Marling Industries Ltd. It manufactures textile lifting and lashing equipment and polypropylene intermediate bulk containers. It exports to about 30 countries worldwide and its products are manufactured under licence in nine countries.

JCB's excavator/loader in Monument Valley Utah.

Mirrlees Blackstone (Stamford)

Mirrlees Blackstone, a subsidiary of Hawker Siddeley Management Ltd, manufactures industrial and marine diesel engines from 180 bhp to 2500 bhp with a complementary range of marine gearboxes. It also makes single cylinder horizontal oil engines. Markets include the Middle East, Far East and north Africa. Export sales have also been made to many islands throughout the world which lacked hydro-electric schemes. The 1975 award to Mirrlees Blackstone Ltd also reflected the achievements of the Stamford factory.

Mothercare

Mothercare, the well-known specialist retailer of merchandise for expectant mothers and children up to 10 years, also has an extensive export operation. It has retail and mail order subsidiaries in nine countries in western Europe and the United States and direct mail order customers in 130 countries. The company is reputed to be Britain's largest mail order exporter.

Mulberry Co (Design)

A small firm, Mulberry was established in 1971 and manufactures fashion goods principally leather belts, bags and light luggage, and fine tweed and leather jackets. It exports to western Europe, north America, Japan, Australia and South Africa and has already established internationally a reputation for high-quality, well-designed products.

Murray Vernon

Murray Vernon is a small merchanting firm which has been active and enterprising in pioneering exports of British cheese, butter and milk powder to Europe, Middle East, far East, the United States and elsewhere.

Nairn Floors

Nairn Floors, a member of the Unilever group, manufactures floor coverings, principally cushioned vinyl, linoleum, vinyl tiles and printed felt base. It exports to more than 100 countries and has sales/distribution centres in the United States, Holland, Belgium, France, West Germany and Australia. Nairn exports about 50 per cent of its cushioned vinyl output and 35 per cent of its linoleum production.

Oversea Buyers

A subsidiary of UTC International Ltd, Basle, Oversea Buyers, export merchants established in 1926, handles a wide range of merchandise which includes technical, engineering and hardware products, Departmental store goods as well as general merchandise. Principal markets are Ghana and Nigeria with the Middle East and Far East being developed.

Alan Paine

Alan Paine, a relatively small company, manufactures fully-fashioned knitted outerwear (sweaters, cardigans, etc) made from natural wool and rare fibres. It exports to more than 20 countries, the most important markets being north America, Scandinavia and West Germany. Previous awards were gained in 1966 and 1970.

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IMI Norgren Ltd., is honoured to receive the coveted Queen's Award for Export Achievement.

The Company whose reputation for the manufacture of compressed air processing equipment has long been world renowned is proud of this outstanding milestone in their history.

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Kinlock Anderson exports tartans and tweeds to western Europe, north America and Japan.

1979

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The best of British exports

The Powles 53, one of a range of luxury express cruisers.

Pearce Duff
The company is a well known and old established manufacturer of jellies, custard and baking powders. It has been a consistent exporter for many years. Market coverage is wide, involving more than 70 countries. Its exports in 1978 were £2.4 million compared with £120,000 in 1971.

Pillar Engineering Group
Pillar Engineering Group, a subsidiary of RTZ Industries Ltd, is made up of some 20 light engineering, electrical contracting and distribution companies. Principal overseas earnings are from the overhaul of aero-engines and aircraft components, from electrical contracting, and from the manufacture of tyre inflation equipment. Markets are worldwide, the most important being the German Federal Republic, Malaysia, Sweden and the United Arab Emirates.

Plessey Radar
Plessey Radar supplies, installs and maintains a wide range of radar and other sensor based equipment and systems including air defence systems, air traffic control systems, information and security systems and meteorological and environmental systems. The award has been granted in recognition of Plessey Radar having trebled its exports in the last three years; 60 per cent of total output goes to overseas markets.

Portex
Portex, a subsidiary of Smiths Industries, manufactures a wide range of plastic catheters and tubes for use primarily in hospitals. Its exports are widespread and it was an award winner in 1970 and 1974.

Posford Pavry and Partners
Posford Pavry and Partners, consulting engineers, whose overseas earnings are from services in planning, design, contract management and financial control for port works, bridges and industrial development. Major projects include a power station and planning advice on major township developments in Kuwait and two new harbours in Libya. The firm is active in several other overseas markets.

Jack Powles International Marine
Jack Powles International Marine manufactures luxury express motor cruisers and yachts.

Preece Cardew and Rider
Preece Cardew and Rider's overseas earnings come from the provision of consulting engineering services in the fields of electrical, mechanical, nuclear, civil, telecommunications, desalination and inspection services. These services are marketed worldwide and particular efforts in the Middle East have resulted in substantial contracts for work in this area.

Pullman's Pullman Kellogg division
The Pullman Kellogg division is responsible, through two companies in the UK, for supplying a fully integrated engineering contracting service specialising in the engineering, design, procurement and construction of oil refineries, petrochemical and chemical plants. Its principal markets are in Europe, the Comecon countries, the Middle East, north and central Africa and the Indian subcontinent. The division also won the award for export achievement in 1978.

The Radiochemical Centre
The Radiochemical Centre manufactures radioactive isotopes and related products for use in medicine, research and industry. The company has been a consistent exporter and won earlier awards for export achievement in 1967 and in 1974. It also won a technology award in 1970. It has won a world wide reputation for quality and service to the user.

Reckitt and Colman
Reckitt and Colman's principal activities are the manufacture and sale of food, wine, household products, toiletries, pharmaceuticals, industrial and artists' materials and craft kits. The company's export activities, which are now on a world-wide basis, date back to the early nineteenth century.

Renishaw Electrical
Renishaw Electrical manufactures probes for co-ordinate measuring machines and machine tools. They can be used for closed-loop quality control on computer-numerically-controlled machine systems. The award reflects the fact that 85 per cent of Renishaw's output is exported.

Martin Roberts
Martin Roberts makes standard and specialist commercial and industrial door products in steel and aluminium. The range of products includes custom designed aircraft hanger doors, sliding-door systems, fire resisting doors, pvc strip doors, rolling and folding doors, blast-proof doors, metal doors and frames.

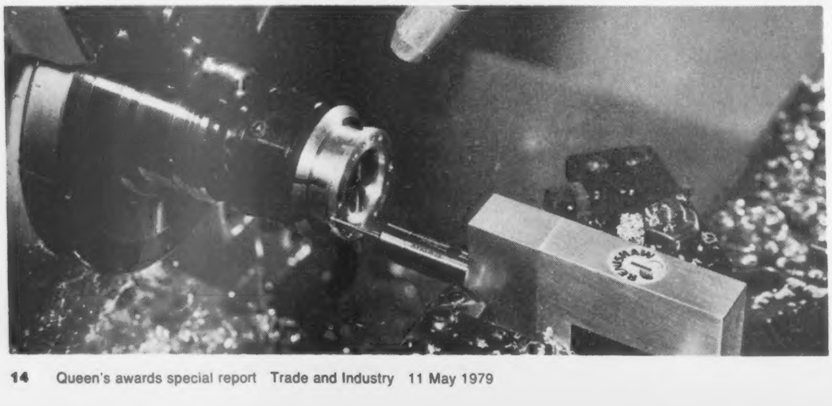
Rolls-Royce
Rolls-Royce is one of the three major aero-engine makers of the western world. It also makes engines for industrial and marine purposes. They have won five previous awards for exports and two for technological achievement.

Rose Forgrove
Rose Forgrove, a subsidiary of Baker Perkins Holdings Ltd, designs, manufactures and markets automatic packaging machinery for the bakery, biscuit, confectionery, tea, pharmaceutical and cosmetic industries. Exports go to some 90 countries and represents nearly 70 per cent of its output.

Salts of Saltaire
Salts of Saltaire, a branch company within the Illingworth Morris Group, manufactures men's woven worsted suitings, ladies' suitings and coat fabrics, and also dresses and coat fabrics for children's wear. It is particularly strong in the discriminating and competitive markets of the Middle and Far East.

Seafoco sea products international division
Trading as Sea Products International, the company first began exporting shellfish to Europe in 1975. It also acts as export marketing agents for various UK processors engaged in the shellfish business. Export markets have been extended to include the United States.

Renishaw's electronic probe sizing a component.



1979

York Division of Borg Warner Limited

Manufacturers of Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Equipment are proud and honoured to receive **The Queens Award for Export Achievement** Bestowed upon the European Manufacturing Plant at Basildon, Essex

YORK BORG WARNER

York Division of Borg-Warner Ltd.,
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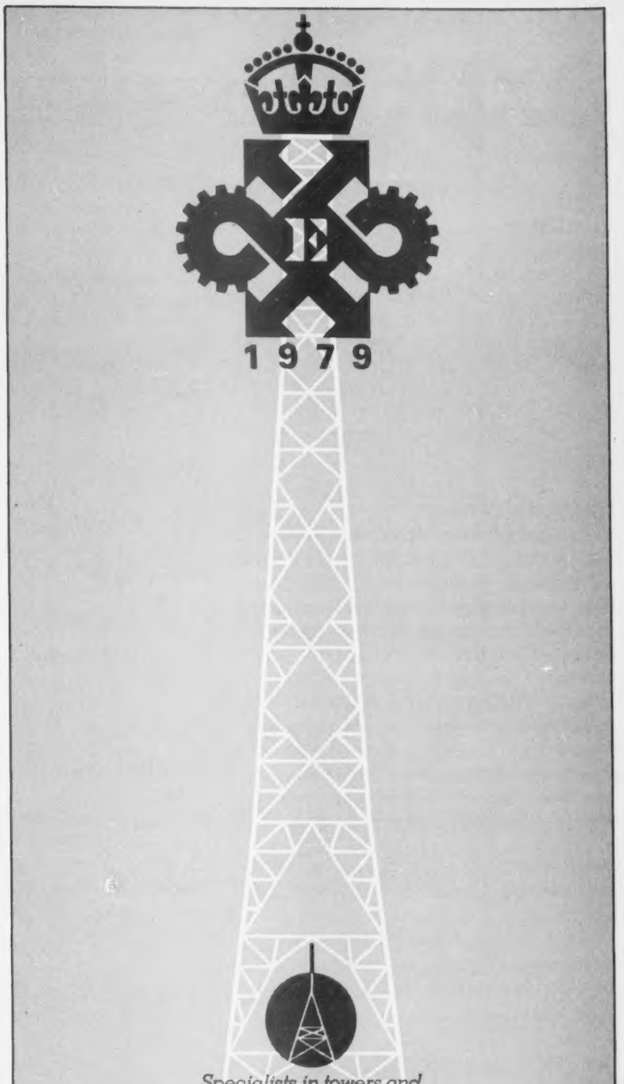
Basildon, Essex SS14 3HE
Basildon 22231



1979

Specialists in towers and masts for aerial systems

ALAN DICK & COMPANY LIMITED

The Queen's Award for Export Achievement 1979 has been conferred upon Alan Dick & Company, specialists in towers and masts for aerial and telecommunications systems. The company wishes to express its appreciation to the customers who have helped make this honour possible.

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Telex 43534

Agemaspark Limited, Britain's largest manufacturer of spark erosion machines, is proud to have received The Queen's Award for Export Achievement. Appropriately this coincides with the Company's 17th Anniversary and rewards the whole Agemaspark team for their contribution to the Nation's economic performance.

AGEMASPARK LTD

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The best of British exports

Sedgwick Forbes Bland Payne Group

Sedgwick Forbes Bland Payne Group Ltd is the parent company of the group formed in February 1979 by the merger of two leading firms of international insurance brokers, Sedgwick Forbes Holdings Ltd and Bland Payne Holdings Ltd. The award recognises the sustained increase of export earnings of each of the two former groups, derived from worldwide business in all classes of insurance.

Short Brothers

Short Brothers, makes aircraft (Skyvan and the newer Short 330 commuter aircraft), missile systems (Seacat, Tigercat and Blowpipe), aircraft components for Boeing and Lockheed, aero-engine parts and armoured patrol cars.

Silver Paint and Lacquer

Silver Paint and Lacquer manufactures a range of paints, varnishes and lacquers. Most of its products have been formulated to suit conditions in tropical areas which make up the company's main export markets.

Smith Kline and French

SKF, a subsidiary of Smith Kline Corporation, manufactures a wide range of ethical, proprietary and animal health medicines, which are exported to some 85 countries. The company won a technology award in 1978 for producing the drug Tagamet.

Solent Canners

Solent Canners manufactures soft drinks and exports its products to the Middle East and elsewhere. Its principal brand Vimto, produced under licence, is becoming a leading soft drink in the Middle East against competition from well-known international brands. The firm gained an award for export achievement in 1978.

Soundcraft Electronics

Soundcraft Electronics makes sound mixing consoles and related equipment for use in recording studios, theatres, concert halls, broadcasting and by touring pop groups. Ninety per cent of its output this year is expected to be exported to more than 30 countries.

Stothert and Pitt

The manufacturing activities of Stothert and Pitt include rail-mounted dockside and shipyard cranes, shiplifts, container spreader beams and winches, road rollers and other construction equipment, pumps and ink and paint-making machinery. Exports are on a worldwide basis.

Bernard Sunley

Sunley carries out building construction and civil engineering works overseas, principally in Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Qatar. Major projects include hospitals, the Dubai international trade and exhibition centre, bank buildings, radio studios and police headquarters. The company has been actively engaged with large building construction in the Middle East for the past 10 years.

Tavern Furnishing

A small firm of contract furnishers and designers, Tavern Furnishers provides a turnkey package. It exports all furnishings for commercial interiors of UK manufacture to Nigeria, Saudi Arabia and Sierra Leone.

Technicare International

A subsidiary of Turriff Corporation, Technicare International provides technical expertise in the planning, implementation, management and staffing of maintenance contracts for sophisticated equipment. It also organises UK-based technical training courses for overseas technicians. The company's services are marketed exclusively abroad mainly in countries rich in natural resources.

Trunk Trailer

Trunk Trailer makes 10 to 100 ton trailers, concentrating almost exclusively on exports.

United Scientific Holdings

United Scientific is the holding company for a group manufacturing optical, electronic, and precision mechanical equipment for use by defence forces. Its products include telescopes, weapon sights, laser rangefinders, electrical and electronic gun-control equipment.

VG Instruments

VG Instruments manufactures scientific instruments, in particular electron spectrometers, electron microscopes, mass spectrometers, all with high unit values. They export worldwide.

Victory Insurance

Established in 1919, Victory Insurance is a subsidiary of Legal and General Assurance Society Ltd and is the second largest British-owned re-insurance company. It's underwriters are acknowledged leaders in both life and general re-insurance. The company's business is worldwide with premium income derived from some 112 overseas countries.

Wallace Murray's Schwitzer division

Wallace Murray makes turbochargers which are exported worldwide.

Ward Brothers (Sherburn)

Ward Brothers manufactures prefabricated steel framed buildings which are exported to a wide range of markets. In addition there are licence agreements for the manufacture of some of the major components where direct exports are not practicable. The company's export sales turnover for 1978, at £8 million, is the equivalent of its total annual sales of three years ago.

Watermeyer, Legge, Piesold and Uhlmann

A firm providing civil engineering consultancy services for all types of major construction projects. Watermeyer, Legge, Piesold and Uhlmann has achieved success in dealing with technical problems of mining beneath rivers and problems of disposal and handling of tailings. Specialised services in dam design, supervision for water supply and hydro-electric projects have contributed to the firm's export achievement. The firm regularly exports to 12 overseas markets.

The Wellcome Foundation

Wellcome engages in extensive research and in the manufacture and marketing of medical and veterinary pharmaceutical preparations, biological products, diagnostic reagents, fine chemicals, household and industrial hygiene products and insecticides. Sales are worldwide. In the last two years, Wellcome's export earnings have increased by 72 per cent to £87 million.

Westcountry Table Rabbits

Westcountry Table Rabbits breeds, processes and packs rabbits for meat, with pelts as a by-product. During the last three years exports to Belgium and France of meat and pelts have increased considerably.

Woden Transformer

Woden Transformer, part of the Babcock and Wilcox organisation, manufactures power transformers, low-voltage distribution switchgear, and small transformers used in business machines and in high-volume applications in the calculator and toy markets.

Wolfe Medical Publications

(Publishers of diagnostic medical and dental atlases for reference and teaching purposes). Wolfe Medical Publications exports to most regions in several languages.

Soundcraft's mixing consoles.

The Queen's Award for Export Achievement 1979 has been granted to

Martin Roberts Ltd.,

Industrial and Commercial Door Manufacturers

Sittingbourne, Kent

Telephone: 0795 76161

The directors and employees wish to express their appreciation to all the customers and suppliers who have helped to make this honour possible

---

1979

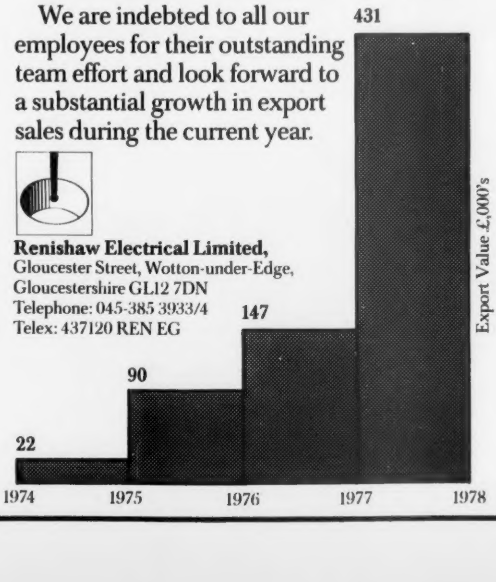
A five fold increase in export sales during the last three years.

RENISHAW

Precision Metrology and Inspection Equipment

We are indebted to all our employees for their outstanding team effort and look forward to a substantial growth in export sales during the current year.

Renishaw Electrical Limited,
Gloucester Street, Wotton-under-Edge,
Gloucestershire GL12 7DN
Telephone: 045-385 3933/4
Telex: 437120 REN EG

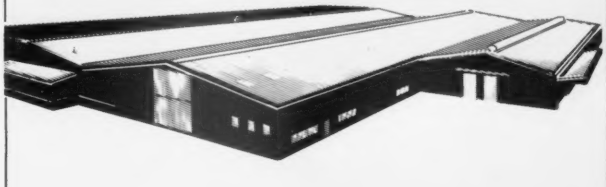


1979 THE QUEEN'S AWARD FOR EXPORT ACHIEVEMENT 1979

WARD BROTHERS (Sherburn) Ltd.

The Steel Framed Industrial Building Specialists

Ward Brothers (Sherburn) Ltd.
Widespan Works, Sherburn, Malton,
N. Yorks. YO17 8PQ England
Telephone: Sherburn (STD 09444) 421 16 Lines
Telex: 52354 WARDBR G



PA

PATSCENTRE INTERNATIONAL

THE QUEEN'S AWARD FOR
TECHNOLOGICAL ACHIEVEMENT
1979

Patscentre International is a major division of PA International. Combined teams from Patscentre, PA Design Unit, Pactel and PA International work together for companies large and small in almost every part of the world designing new products, processes and services.
We can help you with product strategy, product innovation, product research and development, production engineering, manufacturing engineering, industrial design, graphics and marketing.
We have our own laboratories, workshops, production engineering and industrial design facilities in the major engineering and scientific disciplines: electronics, electrical and mechanical engineering, microprocessor technology, biochemistry, optical technology, materials, food technology, thermionics, semiconductors, electron beam technology, robotics, architectural technology, industrial design and graphics.

For more information contact any PA office (located in 26 countries) or contact Patscentre:

Cambridge	0763 61222	Benelux	10 41 80 85
Stockholm	8 13 13 00	Paris	1 505 14 30
Frankfurt	611 74 04 91	Melbourne (Australia)	3 543 4333
PA International		London	01-589 7050

Overseas trade country data

Abu Dhabi

Labelling, alcoholic liquor. Advance notice has been received from the British embassy that the municipality of Abu Dhabi requires for all shipments made from the country of origin after 13 June the full labelling of beer (whether in cans, bottles or kegs). Until that date unlabelled cans etc, will be allowed provided that a list of details is sent for each shipment.

All other alcoholic beverages are being allowed a period of grace of one year from the labelling regulations, which for all other foodstuffs came into effect on 1 December 1978.

Copies in English of the food labelling regulations for Abu Dhabi are available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 475/420.

Angola

Banking report. A banking mission visited Angola in January this year. A precis of their report on the economy is available from CRE 01-215 5794.

Argentina

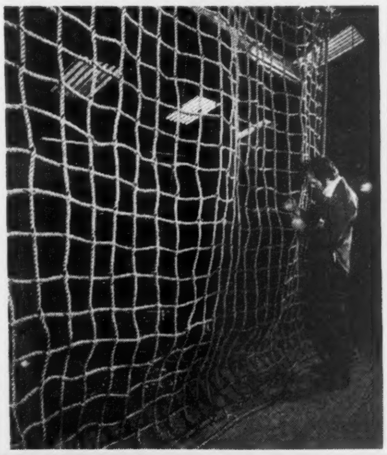
Reduction of import duties. The Ministry of Economy has announced the reduction of import duties on the following products:

NADI nomenclature/ Product	Import duty	
	At (18 April 1979)	From 19 April to 19 October
10.06.01.00 Rice	10%	Zero
11.07.00.00 Malt	10%	Zero
19.01.00.00 Malt extracts	10%	Zero
21.06.00.02 Dry beer yeast	20%	5%
64.02.00.02 Leather shoes	55%	45%
69.01.00.00 Tiles	43%	20%
69.04.00.00 Bricks	15%	Zero
84.24.02.03 Seed planting machinery	45%	40%
84.26.00.00 Automatic milking machinery	45%	37%

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Abu Dhabi orders netted

One of 12 cargo nets which Anglia Handling Services Ltd, Biggleswade are making for Abu Dhabi as part of an export order worth more than £5,000. The overall size of each net is 12 ft × 12 ft with a 6 inch mesh. The outer border is 24 mm, and the mesh 16 mm manilla rope. There are 102 splices produced entirely by hand.



Australia

Toilet preparations, cosmetics, etc. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 23 March, announced that the Australian government had requested the Industries Assistance Commission to inquire into and report on whether the local industry in this field of manufacturing should be accorded assistance.

It has now been announced that the public hearings will take place as follows:

Public Inquiry Room, 16th Floor, 59 Goulbourn Street, Sydney NSW, starting at 10.00 am on 21 May and at Public Inquiry Room, 12th Floor, Morland House, 570 Bourke Street, Melbourne starting at 10.00 am on 25 May.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319.

Ref: CRE 1256/78

Safety standards for pedal bicycles. The Australian Federal, State and Territory ministers for consumer affairs recently agreed to the introduction of two consumer product safety standards under the Trade Practices Act to help reduce accidents to pedal cyclists. These mandatory standards are based on standards approved by the Standards Association of Australia which bear the following identification references 'AS 1927-1978 for pedal bicycles', and 'AS 2142-1978 for reflectors for pedal bicycles'.

Minimum standards of safety will be required from now on for frames, handle bars, braking and steering systems, wheels, pedals and reflectors for both adults' and children's pedal bicycles; the standards also apply to assembled or partially assembled bicycles.

The compliance date for manufacturers and importers is 31 December 1979 and for all other suppliers it is 30 June 1980.

A copy of the standards may shortly be available on loan from the Department of Trade, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319.

Ref: CRE 35184/2

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exports (CRE) Divisions, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel. direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757. In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension.

Insulators. As announced in *Trade and Industry*, 25 August 1978, the Australian government granted assistance to the local industry producing certain insulators falling within tariff items 85.25.3 and 85.25.9; the assistance was by way of a temporary duty on imports of these goods which was initially imposed for the period up to 30 June 1979.

The Temporary Assistance Authority (TAA) has now been requested to review the arrangement and to report whether the temporary assistance should continue after 30 June. The TAA has arranged for the review to be held on 24 May in Canberra and anyone intending to give evidence should write immediately to the Temporary Assistance Authority, PO Box 80, Canberra, ACT 2600.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319.

Ref: CRE 247/78

Gabon

British embassy. The offices of the British embassy in Libreville are now at the Sogame/Ceca 2 Building, Boulevard de l'Independance.

The embassy is a two-man mini-mission consisting of the ambassador and a second secretary and is primarily concerned with commercial matters. The full address is: British Embassy, BP 476, Batiment Sogame/Ceca 2, Boulevard de l'Independance, Libreville, Gabon, tel. 72 29 85, telex 5538 Go Prodrom.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5334.

Malaysia

Plants, pig iron, cast iron etc. The Malaysian government has from 8 March amended the first schedule to the Customs Duties Order 1978 so that it now reads as follows:

Heading/Description	Unit of quantity	Import duty	
		Full	Pref
12.07 Plants and parts (including seeds and fruit) of trees, bushes shrubs or other plants being goods of a kind used primarily in perfumery, in pharmacy, of for insecticidal, fungicidal or similar purposes, fresh or dried, whole, cut, crushed, ground or powdered:			

Heading/Description	Unit of quantity	Import duty	
		Full	Pref
100 Patchouli leaves and other parts of the plant used for distillation	tonne	Nil	
200 Garros wood chips	tonne	Nil	
300 Sandalwood chips	tonne	Nil	
400 Tuba (derris) roots	kg	Nil	
500 Ginseng	kg	$24	
600 Arecanuts, not falling within heading 08.05	kg	Nil	
700 Rosemary, marjoram, basil, borage, rue and sage	kg	Nil	
900 Other	value	55 sen per kg	
73.01 Pig iron, cast iron and spiegeleisen, in pigs, blocks, lumps and similar forms:			
100 Speigeleisen	tonne	Nil	
900 Other	tonne	Nil	

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

Mexico

National industrial development plan. A copy of Mexico's industrial development plan has been received in Export Services Division. It is in Spanish and is available for reference in the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Room D16, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 368/369. As yet no copies are available for loan, but another notice will appear as soon as extra copies are received.

Netherlands

Mayonnaise and salad cream. A decree dated 10 March 1979 (*Staatsblad* 177), published on 17 April, further amends the Mayonnaise and Salad Cream Decree (Commodity Law) 1971. The decree came into force on 19 April.

Copies of this decree (in Dutch) are available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 288/466/467.

Preserved potatoes and potato products. A decree dated 7 March (*Staatsblad* 176), published on 17 April, established the preserved potatoes and potato products decree. The decree comes into force from the fourth calendar month following date of publication in the *Staatsblad*.

Copies of this decree (in Dutch) are available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 288/466/467.

New Zealand

Agricultural chemicals. The New Zealand government has issued the Agricultural Chemicals (Paraquat Specification) Notice 1979 which came into effect on 29 March, and requires a stenching agent and emetic to be added to paraquat. A copy of these regulations can be obtained from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

Poison regulations. The New Zealand government has issued The Poisons Regulations 1964, Amendment 14, which came into effect on 22 March.

A copy of these regulations can be obtained from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

Import licensing schedule. The import licensing schedule for 1 July 1979 to 30 June 1980 has now been published. The basic allocation for 1979–80 will be 110 per cent by value of 1978–79 qualifying licences for consumer goods, and 115 per cent by value for other goods with a basic entitlement.

New exemptions from import licensing. Children's footwear sizes 0–8½ inclusive (excluding gumboots); gloves, mittens and mitts of plastic, leather or composition leather, and textile fabric (except for ski-gloves and work/industrial gloves); molluscs and crustaceans: woolpacks: pewterware: electric shavers and hair clippers.

Changes in allocation. Leather used in the manufacture of footwear will revert to the full basic allocation for raw materials of 115 per cent now that licences have been converted to a square metre basis; adult footwear will be held at 100 per cent of the previous period's licence to bring it into line with other footwear; hairdressing appliances (other than pedestal-type electric hair driers) are now covered separately and will have an allocation of 75 per cent by value of 1978 imports; converters and ladles used in metallurgy etc, and transmissions, will change from a 'C' allocation (where each allocation is considered on its merits) to the basic allocation of 115 per cent; dolls, toys, etc, will retain the basic allocation for consumer goods of 110 per cent but the allocation will be based on the previous period's imports rather than licences because of a change in the item code.

Tubes, pipes, plates, strips etc of aluminium will have a 'C' +50 per cent allocation to allow officials to examine in depth how licences are being used compared with purchases from domestic production; if there are no problems licence holders will receive additional qualifying licences up to the full allocation of 115 per cent.

CRE tel. Direct dialling
OTAR tel. 01-248 5757
Extensions to **OTAR** numbers are given at the end of each notice

Imports of unassembled motor vehicles and the rolling replacement scheme will continue unchanged. Traditional importers of built-up cars will receive 110 per cent of the 1978–79 allocation.

Review of licence holders. Following the success of the 1978–79 review of licence holders in selected item codes, a further 10 item codes will be investigated. The initial allocation for review items will be set at 50 per cent; the balance of their entitlement being received by licence holders if officials are satisfied about the legitimacy of their licence usage. The items subject to review are pineapples, articles of wood, mortice locks and lock sets, portable jacks, sporting goods, radio-controlled apparatus for model ships and planes, antiques.

Consideration was given for spare parts of motor vehicles being included in the review. However, a simple rolling replacement scheme will operate; this is similar to the scheme applying to unassembled motor-vehicles, where licence holders will be issued with 50 per cent of their previous period basic licences and additional licences on evidence of stock, sales performance and licence usage. More details of this scheme will be published when available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

Hong Kong rail cars roll out

Rolling stock for Hong Kong's new Mass Transit Railway (MTR) keeping engineers busy at the British factory where 360 MTR rail cars, worth more than £120 million, are being manufactured. Built by Metro-Cammell, the rail cars are made of aluminium alloy and are among the largest of their kind in the world. Each measures 23 m long and 3.5 m wide and has seating for 48 people with standing room for 330. Maximum operating speeds of the two-car units will be 80 km/h with an average operating speed of 35 km/h including a 30-second stop at each station.

South Africa

Customs tariff changes. The following amendments were published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 29 March:

R.641, CCCN 22.05 and 22.07: The duty on champagne and certain other fermented beverages is reduced by 100c per 100 litres.

R.642, items 104.15 and 104.20: The effect of this amendment is that 1 The rate of duty on unfortified, fortified and sparkling wines and fermented apple, pear and orange beverages, is reduced by 100c per 100 litres; 2 the rates of ordinary excise duty and suspended duty on spirits manufactured in the Republic by the distillation of any sugar cane product are combined and; 3 specific provision is made for spirits manufactured in the Republic by the distillation of any grain product and the rate of duty thereon is increased from 74 579c per 100 litres of absolute alcohol to 80 612c per 100 litres of absolute alcohol.

R.643, items 126.10 to 126.35, CCCN 87.02 and 87.09: 1 The *ad valorem* excise and customs duties on assembled passenger vehicles with a seating capacity of not less than 10 seats and not exceeding 20 seats and motor cars, driven by compression ignition engines, are increased by 10 per cent; 2 *Ad valorem* excise and customs duties of 10 per cent are imposed on certain assembled vehicles designed to negotiate unusual terrain and assembled light goods vehicles (including closed panel vans), driven by compression ignition engines; 3 The *ad valorem* excise and customs duties on motor cycles, autocycles and cycles fitted with auxilliary motors, of an engine capacity of less than 200 cm^3, are withdrawn.

Rebates and refunds of excise duty
R.645, item 609.04.45: Provision is made for a partial rebate of excise duty on spirits obtained by the distillation of any grain products and entered for use in the manufacture of gin.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 471/472/473/462.

Tariff application. Customs tariff application list 14/79, published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 27 April, contains applications to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase in duty on:

1A Tungstic acid and tungsten oxide, classifiable under tariff subheading 28.28.90
B Carbides, whether or not chemically defined, of tungsten, classifiable under tariff subheading 28.56.30
C Mixtures of tungsten carbides and metallic binders (for example, cobalt, nickel or iron), classifiable under tariff subheading 38.19.99
D Tungsten metal, unwrought, in powder form, classifiable under tariff heading 81.01
E Rock-drilling bits, inset with tungsten carbide pieces, classifiable under tariff subheading 82.05.40
F Tungsten carbide wire drawing dies and extrusion dies for metal, classifiable under tariff subheading 82.05.30.90
G Tungsten carbide tips, classifiable under tariff subheading 82.07.20
H Tungsten carbide rolls, classifiable under tariff heading 84.44;
2 Plain shaft bearings and bushes, classifiable under tariff subheading 84.63.50. The application also applies to plain shaft bearings and bushes, including half-shaft bearings, whether or not in sets, imported with unassembled motor vehicles (not incorporated in engines), classifiable under tariff subheadings 87.01.60, 87.02.15, 87.02.22, 87.02.24, 87.02.60 and 87.02.70, and with unassembled chassis (not incorporated in engines), classifiable under tariff subheadings 87.04.20 and 87.04.25.
Note: This application supersedes the application published in customs tariff application list 11/79 of 30 March.

Those British trade organisations thought to be interested in the applications are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association.

If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information concerning the applications, it should address inquiries to CRE 01-215 5274.

Customs duty. The following amendments were published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 12 April:

R.765, item 522.02 is restated: The period in which goods must be re-exported or abandoned to the department is extended from six months to 24 months.

Anti-dumping duties
R.767, items 216.00 and 216.01, CCCN 84.62: Provision is made for an anti-dumping duty of 2200c each on certain journal roller bearings of the rotating end-cover type, supplied by Brenco Inc of Peterburg, Virginia, United States, with retrospective effect to 12 January 1979.

General rebates
R.783, item 410.04, CCCN 27.10: Provision is made for a rebate of duty on certain petroleum products cleared for home consumption.

Rebates and refunds of excise duty
R.784, item 609.06: Provision is made for a rebate of excise duty on certain petroleum products cleared for home consumption.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 471/472/473/462.

Spain

Fluorescent lamps. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 19 April, published royal decree 779/1979, 16 March, which had the effect of reducing the amount of import duty payable on the following goods, from 35 per cent to 7 per cent: Glass tubes for fluorescent lamps (CCCN 70.11 B).

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Temporary import duty reductions. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 28 April, published royal decree 921 of 1979 which had the immediate effect of reducing for a period of three months the amount of import duty to be paid on imported goods entering Spain. Further details about these reductions are obtainable from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Sweden

Agricultural import levies. The State Agricultural Board has announced that the agricultural levies for certain items contained in the following headings have been amended from 24 April:

01.03, 02.01, 02.05, 02.06, 16.01, 16.02

and the following have been amended from 17 April:

10.01, 11.01, 11.02

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 459.

Tanzania

Insurance of imports. As a part of recent measures to conserve foreign exchange, the Bank of Tanzania has instructed importers that insurance on all consignments must be placed with the National Insurance Corporation of Tanzania. New import deals will henceforth be on a c and f basis only.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 472.

Thailand

Fishing nets, taps, pig iron. The Thai Board of Investment has issued:

Notice 12/2522 which places a special fee of 30 per cent of the cif price on the import of fishing nets made of yarns of polyamides fibre, generally known as nylon, size 110 denier, and fishing nets made of monofilament yarns which were made mainly from nylon, coming under CCCN 59.05.

Notice 13/2522 which places a special fee of 20 per cent of the cif price on the import of taps of the type usually used in the house or with sanitaryware, coming under CCCN 84.61.

Notice 14/2522 which places a special fee of 5 per cent of the cif price on the import of pig iron coming under CCCN 73.01 A.

The Board of Investment shall determine which imports pay the special fee and inform Customs accordingly.

All three notices came into effect on 3 April 1979 and remain in force until 2 April 1980.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

Medicines and drugs. The Thai Ministry of Public Health has issued new regulations on the importing or ordering of medicines whose Pharmacopoeia is a combination of Amidopyrine and/or Aminiophenazone, as follows:

1 For a pharmacopoeia which is a combination of amidopyrine which has been approved, the manufacturer, the importer or the person ordering same into the kingdom shall proceed with the exclusion of amidopyrine and replace it with other medicine agent, and may use the previous name. The Office of the Food and Drug Administration will speed up with the consideration of such pharmacopoeia as a special case.
2 The formula of a pharmacopoeia which has been changed under 1 may require for different dosage of the medicine as appeared in the instruction leaflet as is suitable.
3 The persons who import or order the medicine into the kingdom shall cancel the register of pharmacopoeia which is combination by 19 July 1979. After completion of the said period, the Office of the Food and Drug Administration shall proceed with the cancellation of the registers of pharmacopoeia the formula of which contains such medicine agent but which has not been changed.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

Baby food. The Ministry of Public Health has issued notice 64 (B.E. 2522-A.D. 1979) which deals with the classification of baby food as a controlled food, describing the various standards and method of manufacture. United Kingdom exporters can obtain a copy of these regulations from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

Child and semi-finished foods. The Thai Ministry of Public Health has issued notice 63 (B.E. 2522-A.D. 1979) on semi-finished food and 65 (B.E. 2522-A.D. 1979) on child food, which deals with the classification of these foodstuffs as controlled food, describing the quality, standards and methods of manufacture.

A copy of each of these regulations is available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

Venezuela

Duty amendments. Venezuelan decree 3094, 13 February, prohibits the import of hearth and wall tiles, etc, under tariff no. 69.08.00.00.

Ministerial directions 2513 and 1148 of 1 March, have reduced to 1 per cent the import duty on items within tariff nos. 73.10 and 73.15 and have introduced the requirement for an import licence on these goods as well as on items with tariff nos. 73.40.03.99.

Ministerial direction 2535 of 8 March, has increased to 50 per cent the import duty on items within tariff nos. 84.21 and 84.24.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

European community news

Third country fishing inside British fishery limits

Orders under the Fishery Limits Act 1976 and the Sea Fish (Conservation) Act 1967 which came into operation on 30 April which will permit vessels registered in the Faroe Islands, Norway, Spain and Sweden to continue to fish in British fishery limits until 31 December.

Vessels registered in the Faroes, Spain and Sweden are required to carry licences when fishing in British fishery limits as before. Norwegian vessels continue to be exempt from the licencing requirement under a reciprocal arrangement which allows UK and other community vessels to fish for human consumption species in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea without the need for a licence.

The orders are in accordance with the agreements reached between the community and the third countries concerned on fishing rights for the current year.

Export refunds on fish

The European commission has reviewed the arrangements for payment of export refunds and the effective rates of payment and eligible destinations remain unchanged from those effective from 29 January. However, from 29 April the commission regulations is expressing the rates in terms of the European currency unit (Ecu) instead of the unit of account (ua).

Information about the qualifying conditions for export refund payments and the claims procedure may be obtained from the Intervention Board for Agricultural Produce, Fountain House, 2 West Mall, Reading, RG1 7QW.

EEC regulations 100/76 permits export refunds to be paid on certain fishery products to assist their competitiveness in the world market. Export refunds were previously changed on 29 January.

Investigation opened into alleged dumping of tyres from east Europe

The European commission has received information indicating that dumping is being practised or that bounties or subsidies are being granted in respect of imports originating in Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Romania and Yugoslavia of certain new tyre cases and tubeless tyres – ex CCT heading 40.11 – and that this is causing injury to a community industry.

In conjunction with the member states, the commission has started an examination of the matter at community level in accordance with council regulation (EEC) 459/68 of 5 April 1968 on protection against dumping or the granting of bounties or subsidies by countries which are not members of the European Economic Community as amended by regulation (EEC) 2011/73 and (EEC) 1411/77.

Any information relating to the matter may be sent in writing to the Commission of the European Communities, Directorate-General for External Relations, 200 rue de la Loi, B1045 Brussels and a copy sent to Department of Trade, General Division, 1-19 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Those interested also should, within 30 days from 28 April 1979, make known their views in writing, in particular by replying to the questionnaire addressed to those known to be concerned and by providing supporting evidence.

The commission will hear parties directly concerned who so request when making known their views to the commission, provided they can show that they have an interest sufficient to entitle them to express their views more fully.

Formal announcement of this investigation was made in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* C107/2, 28 April 1979.

Inquiries: 01-215 3950.

Two anti-dumping investigations opened

Two anti-dumping investigations have been announced by the EEC commission:

Electric multi-phase motors having an output of more than 0.75 kW but not more than 75 kW originating in Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania and the USSR. The motors concerned fall within Nimexe codes ex 85.01-33, 34 and 36.

Steel flanges originating in Spain and falling within Nimexe codes ex 73.20.42.

Those interested may make their views known by writing to the Commission of the European Communities, Directorate-General for External Relations, 200 rue de la Loi, B1049 Brussels and sending a copy to the Department of Trade's Anti-Dumping Unit, General Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1 6SJ. The closing dates for receipt of submissions are 4 June 1979 (electric motors) and 25 May 1979 (steel flanges).

More community news

Information on European community matters and about member states can often be found in other sections of *Trade and Industry*. For this week's additional news, turn to the following pages:

New publications

Tariff quotas analysed 243
European patent licensing: the issues 243

Overseas trade news

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Notice to importers 1739: imports of twine and cordage from Portugal 250
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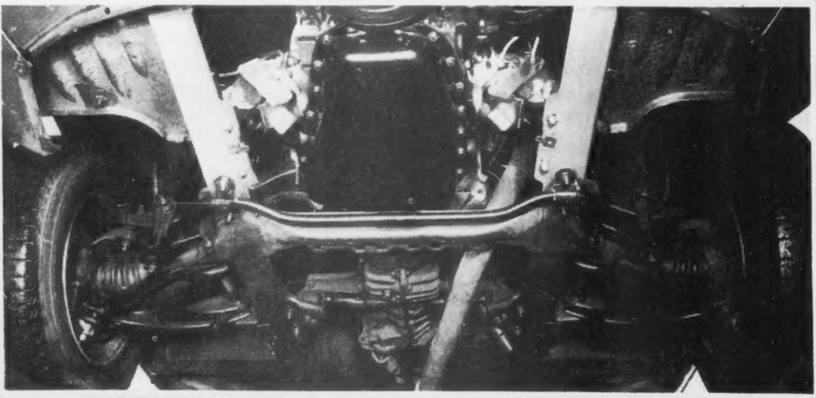
Renault uses Brockhouse Berry anti-roll bars

Brockhouse Berry Ltd has a blanket order with Renault, France, to supply anti-roll bars for the new Renault 18 car. The anti-roll bars, made from silicone manganese steel chrome to the French specification 55S7, are fitted across the front wishbone of the car to give added steering and roll stability, especially during cornering.



The full text of the commission's announcements was published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* 25 April 1979 C103.

Alleged subsidisation of fishing nets from Norway

The European commission has received information indicating that dumping is being practised or that bounties or subsidies are being granted in respect of imports of certain fishing nets and netting of polyamides (CCT subheading 905.A II) originating in Norway, and that this is causing injury to a community industry.

In conjunction with the member states, the commission has accordingly started examination of the matter at community level in accordance with council regulation (EEC) 459/68 5 April 1968, on protection against dumping or the granting of bounties or subsidies by countries which are not members of the community, as amended by regulations (EEC) 2011/73 and (EEC) 1411/77.

Those interested should, within 30 days from 20 April 1979, make known their views in writing, in particular by replying to the questionnaire addressed to the parties known to be concerned and by providing supporting evidence.

Any information should be sent in writing to the Commission of the European Communities, Directorate General for External Relations, 200 Rue de la Loi, B-1049 Brussels, and a copy sent to the Department of Trade, General Division, Room 407, 1–19 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 5742.

The commission will also hear parties directly concerned, who so request when making known their view to the commission, provided they can show that they have an interest sufficient to entitle them to express their views more fully.

Formal announcement of this investigation was made in the Official Journal of the European Communities no C99/7 of 20 April 1979.

Alloy steel probe ended

Investigations into imports of alloy steel wire rod not further worked than hot rolled or extruded originating in and consigned from Spain have been ended by the European commission.

In the course of these investigations, which opened on 22 February an undertaking was given on the direct exports that have satisfied the commission that the introduction of protective measures is unnecessary at present.

Spanish steel duties revoked

The European commission has decided to revoke provisional anti-dumping duties on certain angles, shapes and sections and certain heavy and medium plates of iron and steel for deliveries originating in and consigned from Spain, on imports on or after 11 April.

The duty was not collected if the importer gave security of the account of duty to HM Customs and Excise and that security will now be released.

The full description of the goods is:

73.13 BIa (Nimexe codes 73.13-17, 19, 21, 23 and 26)
Sheets and plates of iron or steel other than electrical, not further worked than hot-rolled of a thickness of 2 mm or more.

ex 73.11 A1 (Nimexe codes 73.11-11, 12, 14 and 16)
Certain angles, shapes and U, I or H sections of iron or steel, not further worked than hot-rolled or extruded.

The European commission has decided that the provisional duties will nevertheless be maintained for deliveries of these goods originating in Spain but consigned from other countries.

Anti-dumping yarn investigation closed

Closure of the anti-dumping investigation into polyamide and polyester high-tenacity yarns originating in the United States has been announced by the European commission.

Dumping was found in the case of polyamide yarn and a satisfactory undertaking has been given by the US exporter concerned but no dumping was found in the case of polyester yarn.

The text of the announcement was published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* C107, 28 April.

New legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* as indicated against each item. The *Official Journal* is published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other member states' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Divisions, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 7174/482/408.

Common agricultural policy

The texts of the following regulations and decisions which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

Pigs and pigmeat. Regulation (EEC) 772/79 amending regulation (EEC) 2766/75 with regard to the standard amount for overhead costs used in calculating the sluice-gate price for pig carcases (*Official Journal* L99, 21 April 1979).

Fruit and vegetables. Regulation (EEC) 797/79 amending the protective measures in respect of imports of dessert apples originating in Chile set out in regulation (EEC) 687/79 (*Official Journal* L101, 24 April 1979).

Regulation (EEC) 810/79 fixing the coefficients to be applied to production aid for tomato concentrates and prunes and to the minimum price for dried plums (prunes d'Ente) (*Official Journal* L104, 26 April 1979).

Seeds and plants. Decision 79/410/EEC authorising member states to permit temporarily the marketing of forestry reproductive material not complying with the requirements of directive 66/404/EEC (*Official Journal* L103, 25 April 1979).

Common customs tariff

Corrigenda. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* .102, 25 April 1979 contains the following correction to regulation (EEC) 684/79 amending regulation (EEC) 950/68 published in the *Official Journal* L86, 6 April 1979, on the common customs tariff as regards the nomenclature of hybrid maize intended for sowing.

Page 13, article 1, column 'Description', Maize, A.II:
for: 'Three cross hybrids', *read:* 'Three-cross hybrids';
in column 3:
for: 'exemption' (four times), (b) *read:* 'free'; (b)
footnote (b):
for: 'In addition to the customs duty, the application of a countervailing charge is provided for under certain conditions.'
read: 'In addition to the customs duty, the application of a countervailing tax is provided for under certain conditions.'

Imports from non-member states

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L101, 24 April 1979 contains the texts of the following decisions which authorise the relevant states to refuse entry to the specific goods. The decisions relate to varying periods; full details are set out in the relevant decisions.

Decision 79/404/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to toys made of wood or other (except motors and movement mechanisms for toys and working models used for recreational purposes and parts thereof), falling within subheadings 97.03 A and ex B of the common customs tariff, originating in Hong Kong and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/405/EEC authorising Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands not to apply community treatment to men's and boys' woven breeches, shorts and trousers (including slacks); women's, girls' and infants' woven trousers and slacks, of wool, cotton or man-made textile fibres, falling within heading ex 61.01 or subheading ex 61.02 B of the common customs tariff (Nimexe codes 61.01-62, 64, 66, 72, 74, 76; 61.02-66, 68, 72) (category 6), originating in Hong Kong and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/406/EEC authorising Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands not to apply community treatment to men's and boys' shirts, woven, of wool, cotton or man-made textile fibres, falling within heading ex 61.03 of the common customs tariff (Nimexe codes 61.03-11, 15, 19) (category 8), originating in China and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/407/EEC authorising Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands not to apply community treatment to cartridges for smooth-bore sporting guns, falling within heading ex 93.07 of the common customs tariff, originating in Czechoslovakia and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/408/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to men's and boys' woven undergarments other than shirts, of wool, cotton or man-made textile fibres, falling within heading ex 61.03 of the common customs tariff (Nimexe codes 61.03-51, 55, 59, 81, 85, 89) (category 18), originating in China and in free circulation in the other member states.

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L104, 26 April 1979, contains the texts of the following decisions which authorise the relevant states to refuse entry to the specific goods. The decisions relate to varying periods; full details are set out in the relevant decisions.

Decision 79/415/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to men's and boys' shirts, woven, of wool, cotton or man-made textile fibres, falling within heading ex 61.03 of the common customs tariff (Nimexe codes 61.03-11, 15, 19) (category 8), originating in Pakistan and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/417/EEC authorising Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands not to apply community treatment to yarn of discontinuous or waste regenerated fibres, not put up for retail sale, falling within subheading 56.05 B of the common customs tariff (Nimexe codes 56.05-51, 55, 61, 65, 71, 75, 81, 85, 91, 95, 99) (category 23), originating in China and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/418/EEC authorising Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands not to apply community treatment to unglazed setts, flags and paving, hearth and wall tiles, falling within heading ex 69.07 and ex 69.08 of the common customs tariff, originating in Japan and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/419/EEC authorising the United Kingdom not to apply community treatment to tents, falling within heading ex 62.04 of the common customs tariff (Nimexe codes 62.04-23, 73) (category 91), originating in Taiwan and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/420/EEC authorising Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands not to apply community treatment to men's and boys' shirts, woven, of wool, cotton or man-made textile fibres, falling within heading ex 61.03 of the common customs tariff (Nimexe codes 61.03-11, 15, 19) (category 8), originating in Hong Kong and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/421/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to woven cotton terry fabrics; toilet and kitchen linen of woven cotton terry fabrics, falling within heading 55.08 or subheading ex 62.02 B of the common customs tariff (Nimexe codes 55.08-10, 30, 50, 80; 62.02-71) (category 9), originating in Brazil and in free circulation in the other member states.

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L106, 28 April 1979, contains the texts of the following decisions which authorise the relevant states to refuse entry to the specific goods. The decisions relate to varying periods; full details are set out in the relevant decisions.

Decision 79/424/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to umbrellas and sunshades (including walking-stick umbrellas, umbrella tents, and garden and similar umbrellas), falling within heading 66.01 of the common customs tariff, originating in Taiwan and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/427/EEC authorising the United Kingdom not to apply community treatment to men's and boys' woven breeches, shorts and trousers (including slacks); women's, girls' and infants' woven trousers and slacks, of wool, cotton or man-made textile fibres, falling within heading ex 61.01 and subheading ex 61.02 B of the common customs tariff (Nimexe codes 61.01-62, 64, 66, 72, 74, 76; 61.02-66, 68, 72) (category 6), originating in the Philippines and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 79/428/EEC authorising Italy not to apply community treatment to sewing machines; furniture specially designed for sewing machines, falling within subheading 84.41 A of the common customs tariff, originating in Japan and in free circulation in the other member states.

UK trade with the EEC in 1978

Last year, the UK had a visible trade deficit of £2,247 million with the EEC, a worsening of £514 million compared with 1977 (see table 1). In spite of this, the value of exports was 86 per cent of the value of imports, a proportion which, with the exception of the 87 per cent of 1977, was the highest since 1971. British exports to the community rose by 15 per cent, but imports were up by 17 per cent. These figures, which represent a reversal of the two previous years when export growth had exceeded that of imports, reflect, in part, the effects of the pick-up of economic activity in the UK.

As table 2 shows, although the UK's visible trade deficit with the EEC worsened in 1978, there was an overall improvement of just over £550 million in trade with the world as a whole. The main factors influencing the reduction in the deficit with the world was a substantial improvement in trade with the developing countries. For the oil exporting countries an already substantial surplus nearly doubled to over £1,500 million, while trade with the rest of the world produced a surplus of about £1 billion, having been in broad balance in 1977. Trade with the rest of western Europe moved into a deficit of over £500 million, a worsening of some £750 million compared with the previous year; this partly reflected the movement of North Sea production installations, but, exceptionally, there was a reduced demand for UK exports while imports continued to rise. The deficit with north America increased slightly while that with the other developed countries was reduced by £143 million.

Trade by commodity

Table 3 shows a breakdown of UK trade with the EEC by broad commodity group, which is not available on a balance of payments basis. However, the commodities which contribute to the movements in the overall deficit can be seen from the 'crude' balance of trade, ie the difference between exports fob and imports cif. Because of the differences, inter alia, in valuation, this is not the best measure of the balance of trade, but the crude balances do provide a sufficient indication of the trends in the balances through time.

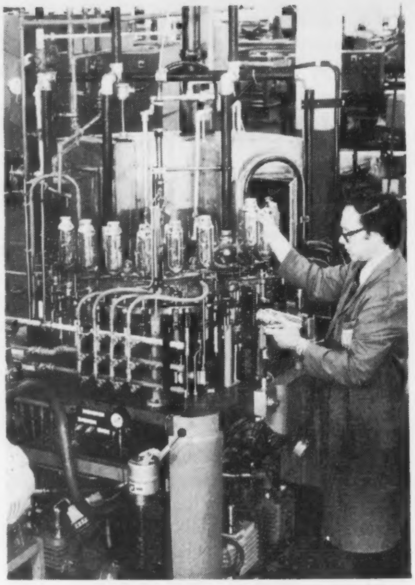
The main changes between 1977 and 1978 by SITC section have been the near doubling of the deficit in machinery and transport equipment caused by increased imports of machinery and also road vehicles, and the movement from surplus to deficit in other semi-manufactures including an increase in imports of textiles. The deficit in miscellaneous manufactures has also worsened. In contrast, there was a further increase in the surplus on fuels, a swing from modest deficit to small surplus in basic materials, and some reduction in the deficit in food.

Food and live animals (section 0)

The UK's crude trade deficit with the EEC in food and live animals declined in 1978 by £125 million to £1,318 million, and the export/import ratio rose to 46 per cent following an increase to 36 per cent in the previous year. The movement resulted from a 37 per cent increase in exports and an 8 per cent increase in imports. The biggest improvement was in cereals, particularly barley, where good harvests in both 1977 and 1978 enabled the UK to reduce her imports as well as increasing her exports, thus reducing the deficit by £187 million. There was also an improvement in the deficit on dairy products of £79 million. This was partly due to increased exports of butter as a high level of stocks was reduced and also to increased exports of milk and cream. A sharp reduction in the imports of raw sugar led to a

Table 1 UK balance of trade with the EEC
Balance of payments basis
Percentage change on previous period

	Exports fob (£ million)	Imports fob (£ million)	Visible balance	Exports as a proportion of imports (per cent)
1970	2 347	2 308	+39	101.7
1971	2 511 (+7)	2 702 (+17)	−191	92.9
1972	2 835 (+13)	3 426 (+27)	−591	82.7
1973	3 944 (+39)	5 135 (+50)	−1 191	76.8
1974	5 581 (+42)	7 623 (+48)	−2 042	73.2
1975	6 273 (+12)	8 685 (+14)	−2 412	72.2
1976	9 052 (+44)	11 179 (+29)	−2 127	81.0
1977	11 878 (+31)	13 611 (+22)	−1 733	87.3
1978	13 675 (+15)	15 922 (+17)	−2 247	85.9



One of the vacuum flask exhaust machines delivered by Badalex of Weybridge to West Germany. The exhaust machine, shown on the factory floor in Weybridge before being delivered, evacuates the air between the inner and outer glass bottles of the flasks.

Table 2 UK balance of trade by area
Balance of payments basis
£ million

	EEC	Rest of western Europe	North America	Other developed countries	Oil exporters	Rest of world	Total
1970	+39	+175	−488	+147	−114	+199	−42
1971	−191	+115	−175	+221	−188	+479	+261
1972	−591	−41	−82	−157	−131	+280	−722
1973	−1 191	−283	−283	−208	−330	−88	−2 383
1974	−2 042	−358	−703	+98	−2 217	−13	−5 235
1975	−2 412	−71	−662	−15	−714	+638	−3 236
1976	−2 127	−2	−826	+13	−709	+50	−3 601
1977	−1 733	+225	−759	−389	+885	+27	−1 744
1978	−2 247	−536	−781	−246	+1 578	+1 057	−1 175

Table 3 UK trade with the EEC by commodity
Overseas Trade Statistics basis
£ million

	Exports			Imports			Crude balance			Export/import ratio		
SITC(R2) section	1976	1977	1978	1976	1977	1978	1976	1977	1978	1976	1977	1978
0 Food and live animals	570	823	1 127	1 993	2 267	2 445	−1 423	−1 443	−1 318	29	36	46
of which												
01 Meat	164	217	253	501	618	754	−336	−401	−501	33	35	34
02 Dairy products	88	64	175	413	350	382	−324	−286	−207	21	18	46
04 Cereals	58	121	183	418	425	301	−360	−305	−118	14	28	61
05 Fruit and vegetables	38	55	79	248	299	319	−210	−244	−240	15	18	25
06 Sugar	26	31	38	84	101	96	−58	−70	−58	31	31	40
1 Beverages and tobacco	146	183	321	219	259	323	−73	−76	−2	67	71	99
2 Basic materials	406	460	514	438	476	455	−32	−16	+59	93	97	113
3 Fuels	761	1 218	1 364	1 000	1 099	1 012	−238	+118	+353	76	111	135
of which												
33 Petroleum and petroleum products	716	1 162	1 290	970	1 043	972	−254	+119	+318	74	111	133
4 Vegetable oils	18	33	32	48	63	72	−30	−30	−40	38	52	44
5 to 8 Manufactured goods	7 201	9 212	10 488	7 664	9 838	12 103	−463	−626	−1 615	94	94	87
5 Chemicals	1 092	1 397	1 686	1 154	1 506	1 812	−62	−110	−126	95	93	93
of which												
58 Plastics	198	246	260	332	406	476	−134	−160	−216	60	61	55
6 Other semi-manufactures	2 123	2 684	2 972	2 005	2 521	3 110	+119	+163	−138	106	106	96
of which												
65 Textiles	368	469	509	416	554	764	−48	−85	−254	88	85	67
67 Precious stones	476	633	743	187	279	338	+289	+354	+405	255	227	220
67 Iron and steel	235	292	335	552	570	621	−317	−278	−286	43	51	54
7 Machinery and transport equipment	3 144	3 978	4 419	3 573	4 609	5 617	−430	−631	−1 198	88	86	79
of which												
71 to 74 Machinery	1 213	1 519	1 664	1 277	1 588	1 978	−64	−69	−314	95	96	84
75 Office machines	365	456	554	383	478	572	−18	−23	−18	95	95	97
76 and 77 Electrical machinery	468	611	680	519	682	841	−51	−71	−161	90	90	81
78 Road vehicles	800	1 069	1 145	986	1 533	1 959	−186	−464	−814	81	70	58
8 Miscellaneous manufactures	842	1 154	1 411	932	1 202	1 564	−91	−48	−153	90	96	90
9 Other goods	203	222	256	165	170	174	+38	+52	+82	123	131	147
Total 0 to 9	9 305	12 152	14 103	11 526	14 171	16 584	−2 221	−2 020	−2 481	87	86	85

small improvement in the deficit on sugar and sugar preparations. There was little change in the deficit on fruit and vegetables with an improvement in vegetables being offset by a deterioration on fruit and nuts, but the export/import ratio rose to 25 per cent from 18 per cent. The deficit on coffee and tea increased slightly, partly reflecting the fall in prices.

Although imports of fish increased much faster than exports there was only a small fall in the surplus in this sector. The deterioration of £100 million in the balance in meat and meat products was mainly due to increased imports of bacon, ham and related products. A decline in the exports of pork was another contributory factor.

Beverages and tobacco (section 1)
Trade in beverages and tobacco, taken together, was in broad balance until the EEC last year following a deficit of £76 million in 1977. The improvement was entirely due to increased exports of unmanufactured tobacco. An improvement in the exports of distilled beverages, particularly whisky, was offset by higher imports of wine.

Basic materials (sections 2 and 4)
There was an improvement in the balance of trade for the two sections taken together from a deficit of £46 million to a surplus of £19 million. The 11 per cent rise in exports was mainly due to increased shipments of metal ores and textile fibres, while lower arrivals of oil seeds and metal ores led to a 2 per cent fall in imports.

Fuels (section 3)
Roughly 90 per cent of UK's trade in fuels with the EEC consists of trade in petroleum and petroleum products. After the large improvement in 1977, the trade surplus in these productions grew by £199 million to £318 million last year. Exports increased by 11 per cent while imports fell by 7 per cent. The surplus in crude oil was slightly smaller, but trade in petroleum products showed an improvement of nearly £200 million as increased exports coupled with lower imports reduced the deficit to £16 million.

Manufactured goods (sections 5 to 8)
The UK's crude trade deficit in manufactures with the community worsened by £989 million to over £1,600 million. A 14 per cent rise in exports and a 23 per cent rise in imports meeting increased demand at home led to the export/import ratio falling to 87 per cent from 94 per cent in the previous two years.

Although the deficit in chemicals increased by £16 million the export/import ratio remained unchanged at 93 per cent with both exports and imports rising by 21 per cent. Improvements in inorganic chemicals and medicinal and pharmaceutical products were more than offset by deterioration in organic chemicals and plastics materials. The small surplus achieved in organic chemicals in 1977 disappeared last year.

The trade balance in other semi-manufactures moved from a surplus of £163 million in 1977 to a deficit of £138 million last year. Imports rose by 23 per cent to £3,110 million while exports increased by 11 per cent to £2,972 million. A switch from deficit to surplus in rubber manufactures and an increased surplus in non-metallic mineral manufacture, particularly precious stones, was more than offset by adverse movements in the other commodities. A large rise in imports led to an increase in the deficit on textiles from £85 million to £254 million in 1978 and trade in paper manufactures moved into deficit by £32 million from near balance in 1977. Among metals, iron and steel showed little change in the deficit, but the surplus on non-ferrous metals declined by £104 million.

The deficit on trade in machinery and transport equipment increased by £567 million to £1,198 million with nearly two-thirds of the deterioration occurring in road vehicles. Only other transport equipment, which includes the erratic items of ships, aircraft and North Sea installations, and office machinery and computers showed any improvement. Both non-electrical and electrical machinery showed adverse movements, but within these groups surpluses were maintained in power generating equipment and telecommunications and reproduction equipment. Most of the deterioration of trade in road vehicles was attributable to passenger motor cars where exports rose by 18 per cent but imports increased by 31 per cent.

The deficit in miscellaneous manufactures, a section consisting mainly of consumer goods, widened again after the improvement of the previous two years. With exports rising by 22 per cent and imports by 30 per cent the export/import ratio returned to its 1976 level. There was a small improvement in the surplus on clothing, but most of the deterioration was attributable to adverse movements in furniture, footwear and professional and scientific instruments.

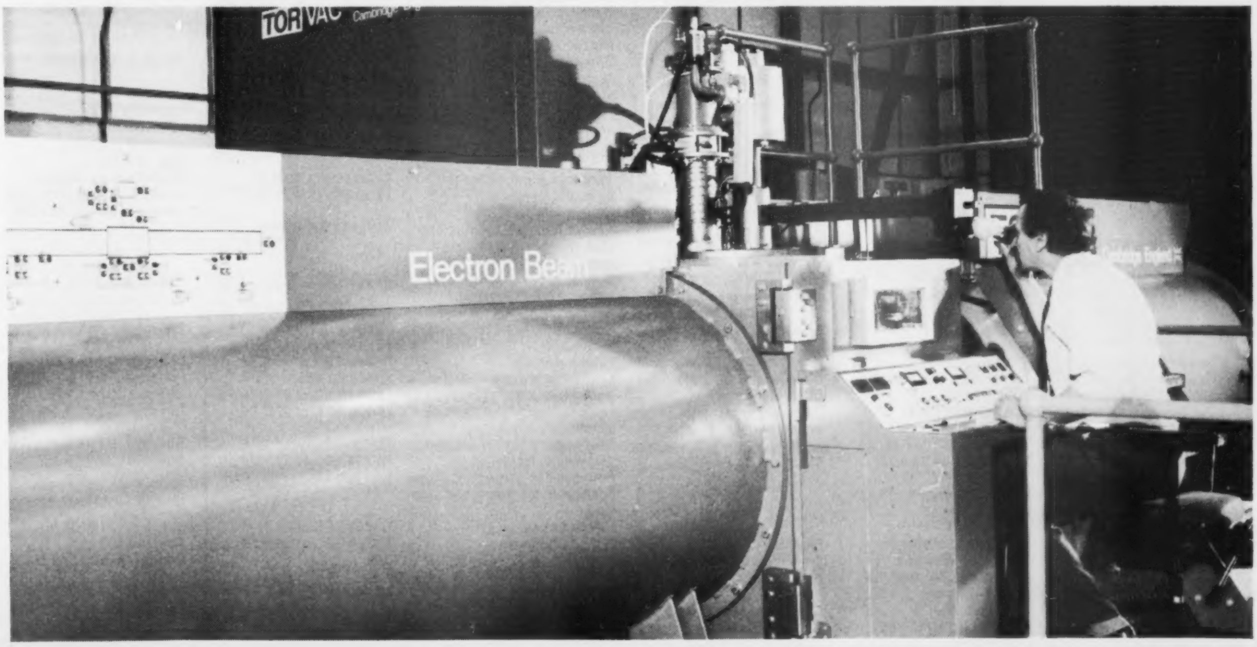
Notes

1 Basis of statistics
UK imports are attributed to the country of consignment, ie the country of original shipment unless a commercial transaction has taken place in another country prior to arrival in the UK, and exports to the country of final destination, as known to the exporter. For UK trade with EEC, our trade balance is affected to a not inconsiderable extent by the fact that some of our imports from the EEC are of goods consigned from, but not originating in, the community, for example, oil and cereals. An article in *Trade and Industry* of 21 April describes systems of attribution of trade by country, and discusses the UK-EEC trade balance on an alternative 'origin-consumption' basis, in which imports are attributed to the country of origin and exports to the country of consumption.

2 The green pound
Following changes in the method of payment of monetary compensatory amount in May 1976 there is a small discontinuity in the statistics, mainly in food.

3 Trade classification
The figures are classified, by commodity, according to the Standard International Trade Classification Revision 2 (SITC (REV 2)).

This large electron beam welding machine has been despatched recently by Torvac Ltd, Cambridge, to customer Fiat Settore Energia, Italy, for welding nuclear reactor components. Welds 4 m long in 10 mm thickness material can be executed in its 8.4 m long by 1 m diameter vacumm chamber.



Eliminating technical barriers to trade within the EEC Article 100: checklist of draft and adopted directives

Below we print the usual quarterly revision of our checklists, showing the directives, which are proposed, approved, or adopted, introduced under article 100 of the treaty of Rome. The last lists were published in *Trade and Industry* of 16 and 23 February. A background article on elimination of technical barriers to trade appeared in the August 1974 issue of the European Community Commentary.

A word on terminology. A preliminary draft is really nothing more than a working document for commission working groups, and may appear in any number of revisions. A commission proposal is the final version of the draft as submitted by the commission to the council of ministers. It too may undergo revision as a result of representations by member states at council meetings, and may even be remitted to the commission for further elaboration.

A directive does not have direct internal effect, but creates obligations on the governments of the member states to ensure that its requirements are strictly and fully implemented, where necessary by national legislation. Once adopted, council directives may be adapted to technical progress by directives issued either by the commission or if necessary, by the council on a proposal from the commission.

The texts of adopted directives are published in the 'L' (legislation series) of the *Official Journal of the European Communities*, and the text of commission proposals in the 'C' (information and notices) series, preliminary drafts and council revisions of commission proposals are not published. In the list below, the dates of issue of the *Official Journal* containing texts of adopted and proposed directives are given where they are known. The *Journal* has appeared in English only since 1 January 1973, but the English texts of adopted directives published before then (together with all other pre-accession community legislation) were issued in a series of special editions of the *Official Journal* in December 1972.

Asterisks indicate where changes in the status of documents have occurred during the past quarter. The *Official Journal* is obtainable from HM Stationery Office.

Industrial

Inquiries: Mr E. W. Allen, Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, Metrology, Quality Assurance and Standards Division, Branch 1, Room 2801, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QU, tel. 01-211 6228.

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Motor vehicles		
Type approval	70/156/EEC of 6.2.70	Directive (*OJ* 23.2.70)
	COM(76)721 FINAL	Commission amending proposal (*OJ* 2.2.77)
	78/315/EEC of 21.12.77	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.78)
	78/547/EEC of 12.6.78	Directive (*OJ* 26.6.78)
Rear registration plates	70/222/EEC of 20.3.70	Directive (*OJ* 6.4.70)
Sound level and exhaust system	70/157/EEC of 6.2.70	Directive (*OJ* 23.2.70)
	Adapted to technical progress by 73/350/EEC of 7.11.73	Commission directive (*OJ* 22.11.73)
	77/212/EEC of 8.3.77	Directive amending 70/157/EEC (*OJ* 12.3.77)
Fuel tanks and rear protective devices	70/221/EEC of 20.3.70	Directive (*OJ* 6.4.70)
	XI/249/75	Preliminary draft for adaptation to technical progress
	XI/260/75 Rev 2	Preliminary draft for further adaptation to technical progess
Audible warning devices	70/388/EEC of 22.7.70	Directive (*OJ* 10.8.70)
Air pollution by gases from positive ignition (spark ignition) engines	70/220/EEC of 20.3.70	Directive (*OJ* 6.4.70)
	Adapted to technical progress by 74/290/EEC of 28.4.74	Directive (OJ 15.6.74)
	77/102/EEC of 30.11.76	Commission directive adapting 70/220/EEC (*OJ* 3.2.77 L32)
	C(78)858 FINAL	Further commission directive adapting 70/220/EEC to technical progress
Steering equipment	70/311/EEC of 8.6.70	Directive (*OJ* 18.5.70)
Doors	70/387/EEC of 27.7.70	Directive (*OJ* 10.8.70)
Direction indicator lamps	76/759/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (OJ 27.9.76)
Suppressioh of radio interference produced by spark ignition engines	72/245/EEC of 20.6.72	Directive (*OJ* 6.7.72)
Installation of lighting and light signalling devices	76/756/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Windscreen-wiper and windscreen-washer systems	COM(76)571 FINAL	Commission proposal
	78/318/EEC of 21.12.77	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.78) and corrigendum (*OJ* 19.7.78)
Field of vision	COM(75)619 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ C54 of 8.3.76*)
	77/649/EEC of 27.9.77	Directive (*OJ* 19.10.77) and corrigendum (*OJ* 19.10.77)
Rear-view mirror	71/127/EEC of 1.3.71	Directive (*OJ* 22.3.71)
	XI/453/76	Preliminary draft
Electrical connections between vehicles and their trailers	COM(68)633 FINAL	Commission proposal withdrawn. Further work in hand
Reverse and speedometer equipment	75/443/EEC of 26.6.75	Directive (*OJ* 26.7.75)
Electrical circuits	Work not started	
Maximum speed (method of determination)	Work not started	
Braking devices	71/320/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (OJ 6.9.71)
	Adapted to technical progress by 74/132/EEC of 11.2.74	Commission directive (*OJ* 19.3.74)
	Adapted further to technical progress by 75/524/EEC of 25.7.75	Commission directive (*OJ* 8.9.75) and corrigendum (*OJ* 23.9.75)
Safety glass	COM(72)981 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 16.11.72)
Interior fittings (interior part of the passenger compartment other than interior rear-view mirrors, layout of controls, roof or sliding roof, backrest and rear part of seats)	74/60/EEC of 17.12.73	Directive (*OJ* 11.2.74)
	78/632/EEC of 19.5.78	Commission directive adapting to Technical Progress Council directive 74/60/EEC
Arrangement of foot controls	XI/341/75	Preliminary draft
Identification of controls tell-tales and indicators	COM(76)571 FINAL	Commission proposal
	78/316/EEC	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.78 L81/3)
Tyres	COM(76)712 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.2.77)
Mechanical coupling equipment between vehicles and trailers	XI/14/77	Preliminary draft
Anchorages for safety belts	76/115/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (*OJ* 30.1.76)
Emission of pollutants by motor vehicles with diesel fuelled (compression ignition) engines	72/306/EEC of 2.8.72	Directive (OJ 20.8.72)
	Corrigendum to 72/306/EEC	Directive (*OJ* 23.11.77)
External projections	74/483/EEC of 17.9.74	Directive (*OJ* 2.10.74)
Head-restraints of seats	COM(74)2180 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.4.75)
	78/932/EEC	Directive (OJ 20.11.78 L325)
Devices to prevent the unauthorised use of motor vehicles	74/61/EEC of 17.12.73	Directive (*OJ* 11.2.74)
Strength of seats and their anchorages	74/408/EEC of 22.7.74	Directive (*OJ* 12.8.74)
Behaviour of the steering mechanism in the event of impact	74/297/EEC of 4.6.74	Directive (*OJ* 20.6.74)
Safety belts and restraint system	77/541/EEC of 28.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 29.8.77)
Statutory plates and inscriptions, their location and method of attachment	76/114/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (OJ 30.1.76)
	78/507/EEC of 19.5.78	Commission directive adapting 76/114/EEC to technical progress (*OJ* 13.6.78)
Windscreen defrosting and demisting systems	COM(76)571 FINAL	Commission proposal
	78/317/EEC of 21.12.77	Directive (OJ 28.3.78) and corrigendum (*OJ* 19.7.78)
Interior fittings – seats (other than strength of seats and anchorages)	Work not yet started	
Special provision for public transport vehicles	XI/347/76	Preliminary draft
Special provisions for taxis	Work not started	
Special provisions for goods vehicles	XI/1042/76	Preliminary draft
Towing devices	77/389/EEC of 18.5.77	Directive (*OJ* 13.6.77)
Legs of trailers and semi-trailers	XI/508/73 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
Reflex reflectors	76/757/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (OJ 27.9.76)
Front fog lamps and filament lamps	76/762/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Rear registration plate lamps	76/760/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (OJ 27.9.76)
End-outline marker lamps, front position (side) lamps, rear position (side) lamps, and stop lamps	76/758/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Headlamps	76/761/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (OJ 27.9.76)
Rear fog lamps	77/538/EEC of 28.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 29.8.77) Corrigendum (*OJ* 10.10.78 L284)
Parking lamps	77/540/EEC of 28.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 29.8.77) Corrigendum (*OJ* 10.10.78 L284)

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Reversing lamps	77/539/EEC of 28.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 29.8.77) Corrigendum (*OJ* 10.10.78 L284)
Hazard warning devices	Work not started	
Springs	Work not started	
Verification of fuel consumption	XI/702/76	Preliminary draft
Heating systems	COM(76)702 FINAL 78/548/EEC of 12.6.78	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.2.77) Directive (*OJ* 26.6.78)
Wheel guards	COM(76)702 FINAL 78/549/EEC of 12.6.78	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.2.77) Directive (*OJ* 26.6.78)
Weights and dimensions	COM(76)701 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 20.1.77)
Tractors and agricultural machinery		
Type approval *	74/150/EEC of 4.3.74 COM(78)682 FINAL	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.74) Commission amending proposal
Maximum design speed and load platforms	74/152/EEC of 4.3.74	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.74)
Certain parts and characteristics	74/151/EEC of 4.3.74	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.74)
Projecting parts	XI/48/74	Preliminary draft following reconsideration of COM(68)565 FINAL
Towable load	COM(68)565 FINAL	Commission proposal referred back for further consideration. Proposal withdrawn
Rear-view mirrors	74/346/EEC of 25.6.74	Directive (*OJ* 15.7.74)
Lighting and light signalling devices	COM(74)895 FINAL 78/933/EEC	Commission proposal (*OJ* 13.9.74) Directive (*OJ* 20.11.78 L325)
Steering equipment	75/321/EEC of 20.5.75	Directive (*OJ* 9.6.75)
Power connection for lighting and light signalling devices	75/323/EEC of 20.5.75	Directive (*OJ* 9.6.75)
Suppression of radio interference produced by spark-ignition engines	75/322/EEC of 20.5.75	Directive (*OJ* 9.6.75)
Driver's seat	XI/604/76 XI/693/76 C229/16 (no COM FINAL issued) III/403/78 78/764/EEC of 25.7.78	Preliminary draft Preliminary draft Commission proposal to council of 26.9.77 Further preliminary draft Directive (*OJ* 18.9.78 L225)
Passenger seats	76/763/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Coupling between tractor and trailer *	COM(68)565 FINAL	Commission proposal referred back for further consideration. Proposal withdrawn
Braking devices	76/432/EEC of 6.4.76	Directive (*OJ* 8.5.76)
Safety glass	XI/299/74	Preliminary draft
Emission of pollutants from diesel engines	77/537/EEC of 28.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 29.8.77)
Tyres	Work not yet started	
Power take-off	III/401/78-FR	Preliminary draft
Field of vision and windscreen wipers	74/347/EEC of 25.6.74	Directive (*OJ* 15.7.74)
Location and attachment of statutory plates and inscriptions	Work started but no papers yet available	
Length, width and unladen height	Work started but no papers yet available	
Maximum authorised weight on each axle and distribution of weight between axles	Work started but no papers yet available	
Maximum vertical load applied to mechanical coupling devices	XI/509/73	Preliminary draft
Speed governor	Work started but no papers yet available	
Reverse gear	III/247/78	Preliminary draft
Rollover protection structures	77/536/EEC of 28.6.77 XI/1036/76 Rev 1 III/794/77 COM(78)389 FINAL	Directive (*OJ* 29.8.77) Preliminary draft technical annexes Modification of XI/1036/76 Rev 1 Commission proposal (*OJ* 11.11.78)
Other means of protection against the weather	Work started but no papers yet available	
Location identification and operation of controls	XI/44/74 III/340/78	Preliminary draft Further preliminary draft
Coupling hooks (front coupling devices)	III/1199/77 COM(78)385 FINAL	Preliminary draft Commission proposal
Driver-perceived noise level	77/311/EEC of 29.3.77	Directive (*OJ* 28.4.77)
Headlamps and incandescent electric filament lamps End-outline marker lamps Front position (side) lamps Rear position (side) and stop lamps Direction indicator lamps Reflex reflectors Rear registration plate lamps Front fog lamps and filament lamps for such lamps Rear fog lamps Reversing lamps Parking lamps	III/245/78-EN COM(78)380 FINAL	Preliminary draft Commission proposal (*OJ* 22.8.78)
Operating space access to the driving position (entry and exit facilities) and to the doors and windows *	COM(78)678 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 29.1.79 C25)
Metrological		
General directive	71/316/EEC of 26.7.71 72/427/EEC of 19.12.72	Directive (*OJ* 6.9.71) Amending directive (*OJ* 28.12.72)
Clinical mercury-in-glass maximum reading thermometers	76/764/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Medium accuracy bar and cylindrical weights	71/317/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (*OJ* 6.9.71)
Measuring of the standard mass per storage volume of grain	71/347/EEC of 12.10.71	Directive (*OJ* 25.10.71)
Calibration of the tanks of vessels	71/349/EEC of 12.10.71	Directive (*OJ* 25.10.71)
Material measures of length	73/362/EEC of 19.11.73 III/771/77 Rev 1 COM(78)134 FINAL 78/629/EEC of 19.6.78	Directive (*OJ* 5.12.73) Preliminary draft Commission directive adapting 73/362/EEC to technical progress Commission proposal Directive (*OJ* 29.7.78)
Non-automatic weighing machines	73/360/EEC of 19.11.73 76/696/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 5.12.73) Commission directive Technical progress adaptation (*OJ* 27.8.76)
Electrical energy meters	76/891/EEC of 4.11.76	Directive (*OJ* 4.12.76)
Meters for liquids other than water	71/319/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (*OJ* 26.7.71)
Measuring systems for liquids other than water	77/313/EEC of 5.4.77	Directive (*OJ* 28.4.77)
Ancillary equipment for meters for liquids other than water	71/348/EEC of 12.10.71	Directive (*OJ* 25.10.71)
Gas volume meters	71/318/EEC of 26.7.71 Adapted to technical progress by 74/331/EEC of 12.6.74 XI/355/76 Rev 3 78/365/EEC of 31.3.78	Directive (*OJ* 6.9.71) Commission directive (*OJ* 12.7.74) Preliminary draft Second technical progress adaptation Commission directive (*OJ* 18.4.78 L104)
Making-up by volume of certain prepackaged liquids	75/106/EEC of 19.12.74 XI/948/76 XI/1082/76 COM(77)455 FINAL 78/891/EEC	Directive (*OJ* 15.2.75) Preliminary draft Preliminary draft Commission amending proposal (*OJ* 19.10.77) Commission directive adapting to technical progress the annexes of 75/106/EEC (*OJ* 4.11.78 L311)
Bottles used as measuring containers	75/107/EEC of 19.12.74	Directive (*OJ* 15.2.75)
Cold water meters	75/33/EEC of 17.12.74	Directive (*OJ* 20.1.75)
Hot water meters	XI/996/76 Rev 1 COM(77)495 FINAL	Preliminary draft Commission proposal
Thermal energy meters	III/214/77	Preliminary draft
Road and rail transport tanks for use as measuring containers		Commission proposal (*OJ* 13.9.74) withdrawn (*OJ* 3.2.77 C26)
Taximeters	77/95/EEC of 21.12.76	Directive (*OJ* 31.1.77)
Alcoholmeters and alcohol hydrometers	76/765/EEC of 27.7.76 Corrigenda	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76) (*OJ* 5.3.77)
Alcohol tables	76/766/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Saccharimeters	Work started but no papers yet available	
Continuous totalising weighing machines	75/410/EEC of 24.6.75	Directive (OJ 14.7.75)
Instruments for determining the fat content of dairy produce	Work started but no papers yet available	
Metallic manometers	III/1919/72	Preliminary draft in abeyance. Further work in hand
Apparatus for measuring arterial pressure	Work started but no papers yet available	
Weights of from 1 mg to 50 kg of above medium accuracy	74/148/EEC of 4.3.74	Directive (OJ 28.3.74)
Instruments for measuring moisture content of grain	XI/86/74	Preliminary draft
Electronic devices incorporated or associated with measuring instruments *	XI/667/76 Rev 4 III/379/78-F COM(78)766 FINAL	Preliminary draft Further preliminary draft Commission final proposal (*OJ* 15.2.79 C42)
Units of measurement	71/354/EEC of 18.10.71 76/770/EEC of 27.7.76 Corrigenda to 76/770/EEC III/92/78-EN	Directive (OJ 29.10.71) Amending directive (*OJ* 27.9.76) (OJ 14.12.76) Preliminary draft
Check-weighing and grading machines *	COM(75)573 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 8.3.76) Directive adopted but not yet published
Making up by weight or by volume of certain prepackaged products	76/211/EEC of 20.1.76 III/348/78 78/891/EEC	Directive (OJ 21.2.76 L46) Preliminary draft for adaptation to technical progress Commission directive (*OJ* 4.11.78) adapting to technical progress the technical annexes of 76/211/EEC
Differential pressure gasmeters	Work not yet started	
Ranges of nominal quantities permitted for certain prepackaged products	COM(76)384 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 18.8.76)

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Scales of charges for the testing of gas meters	COM(74)776 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 1.7.74)
Instruments for measuring pollution of air	Work not yet started	
Tyre pressure gauges *	Work started but no papers yet available	Preliminary draft
	III/1528/78-EN Rev 1	
Electrical		
Electrical equipment designed for use within certain voltage limits	73/23/EEC of 19.2.73	Directive (*OJ* 26.3.73)
Electro-medical equipment Medical X-ray equipment	COM(74)2178 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 12.2.75)
Electrical equipment for use in potentially explosive atmospheres (framework directive)	76/117/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (*OJ* 30.1.76)
Electrical equipment for use in explosive atmospheres (special directive) *	XI/508/75	Preliminary draft
	XI/1119/76 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
	XI/79/77	Amendment
	XI/80/77	Amendment
	COM(77)660 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 6.1.78)
	79/196/EEC	Directive (*OJ* 20.2.79 L43)
Radio interference caused by electrical household appliances, portable tools and similar equipment	76/889/EEC of 4.11.76	Directive (*OJ* 4.12.76)
	Corrigendum	(*OJ* 28.4.77 L105)
Suppression of radio interference from fluorescent lighting luminaries	76/890/EEC of 4.11.76	Directive (*OJ* 4.12.76)
	Corrigendum	(*OJ* 28.4.77 L105)
Suppression of radio interference from radio and television sets	COM(73)569 FINAL	Commission proposal
Suppression of radio interference from industrial, scientific and medical equipment	COM(74)1181 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 6.3.75)
Plugs and sockets	XI/685/76	Preliminary draft withdrawn
Textiles		
Textile names	71/307/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (OJ 16.8.71)
	75/36/EEC of 17.12.74	Directive supplementing 71/307/EEC (*OJ* 20.1.75)
Quantitative analysis of binary textile fibre mixtures	72/276/EEC of 17.7.72	Directive (OJ 31.7.72)
Quantitative analysis of ternary fibre mixtures	73/44/EEC of 26.2.73	Directive (*OJ* 30.3.73)
Quantitative analysis mixtures of fibres of the same chemical nature	Work started but no papers yet available	
Elimination of foreign matter	Work started but no papers yet available	
Pressure vessels		
General directive	76/767/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Seamless steel gas cylinders	COM(72)1689 FINAL	Commission proposal
Aerosol dispensers	75/324/EEC of 20.5.75	Directive (*OJ* 9.6.75)
Seamless aluminium alloy gas cylinders	COM(74)966 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 13.9.74)
Welded unalloyed steel gas cylinders	COM(74)965 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 13.9.74)
Unfired pressure vessels of welded steel *	XI/584/75	Preliminary draft
	XI/584/77 Rev 2	Preliminary draft
	COM(78)702 FINAL	Commission final proposal (*OJ* 10.2.79 C37) Although the title of this proposal reads 'certain types of simple pressure vessels', the proposal in fact relates to unfired pressure vessels of welded steel
Shell boilers for producing steam or hot water	Work started but no papers yet available	
Dangerous substances and preparations		
Classification packaging and labelling of dangerous substances	67/548/EEC of 27.6.67	Directive (OJ 16.8.67)
	73/146/EEC of 21.5.73	Amending directive (*OJ* 25.6.73)
	75/409/EEC of 24.6.75	Amending directive (*OJ* 14.7.75)
	76/907/EEC of 14.7.76	Commission directive adapting to technical progress 67/548/EEC (*OJ* 30.12.76)
	COM(76)433 FINAL	Commission amending proposal (*OJ* 5.11.76)
Classification packaging and labelling of pesticides	COM(74)2193 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 20.2.75)
	78/631/EEC of 26.6.78	Directive (*OJ* 29.7.78)
Approval and putting into circulation of agricultural pesticides	15.175/VI/69	Preliminary draft
	COM(76)427 FINAL	Commission proposal
Explosives	13269/III/70	Preliminary draft
Classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous preparations (solvents)	73/173/EEC of 4.6.73	Directive (*OJ* 11.7.73)
	III/ex XI/790/76 Rev 4	Draft amending directive
	COM(77)718 FINAL	Commission final proposal
Classification, packaging and labelling of paints, varnishes, glues and related products	COM(75)311 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 23.7.75)
	77/728/EEC of 7.11.77	Directive (*OJ* 28.11.77)
Classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous products of general use in the home (household preparations)	XI/780/76	Preliminary draft
	XI/1/76 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
Corrosives	Work started but no papers yet available	
Detergents	73/404/EEC of 22.11.73	Directive (*OJ* 17.12.73)
Methods of testing the biodegradability of anionic surfactants	73/405/EEC of 22.11.73	Directive (*OJ* 17.12.73)
Methods of testing the biodegradability of non-ionic surfactants	XI/315/76	Preliminary draft
	III/1293/77	Preliminary draft
Detergents – toxicity	Work in abeyance	
Restrictions on the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations	76/769/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Restrictions on the marketing and use of certain types of asbestos fibre	III/366/77 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
Classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances not covered by original directive (67/548/EEC)	III/365/77	Preliminary draft
Lifts and lifting apparatus		
Certification and marking of wire ropes, chains and hooks	73/361/EEC of 19.11.73	Directive (*OJ* 5.12.73)
	76/434/EEC of 13.4.76	Commission directive (*OJ* 8.5.76) Adapting 73/361/EEC to technical progress
Common provisions for lifting and mechanical handling appliances (general directive)	COM(75)336 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 29.9.75)
Tower cranes for building work	XI/276/76 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
	XI/882/76	Preliminary draft
Builders' hoists	Work started but no papers yet available	
Conveyor-belts	Work started but no papers yet available	
Electrically operated lifts	COM(75)336 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 29.9.75)
Powered industrial trucks	XI/768/76	Preliminary draft
Machine tools and machines		
Common provisions for the working of metals, wood, paper and other materials	XI/216/74	Preliminary draft
	COM(77)656 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 27.1.78)
Grinding wheels and grinding machines	XI/217/74	Preliminary draft
Portable grinding machines	XI/270/75	Preliminary draft (but now agreed to divide into three separate directives 9/3, 9/4, 9/5)
	COM(77)656 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 27.1.78)
Fixed grinding machines	Work started but no papers yet available	
Grinding wheels	Work started but no papers yet available	
Woodworking machines	Work started but no papers yet available	
Crystal glass		
Crystal glass	69/493/EEC of 15.12.69	Directive (*OJ* 29.12.69)
Oil pipelines		
Oil pipelines (construction)	COM(68)640 FINAL	Proposal withdrawn (*OJ* 3.2.77 C26)
Precious metals		
Articles made from precious metals	COM(75)607 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 16.1.76)
Gas appliances		
Framework directive for gas appliances and associated safety and control devices	COM(74)2179 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 16.6.75)
Instantaneous production of hot water for sanitary purposes		
Cookers	Work started but no papers yet available	
Central heating boilers	Work started but no papers yet available	
Gas governors	Work started but no papers yet available	
Independent space heaters	Work started but no papers yet available	
Fertilisers		
General directive	76/116/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (*OJ* 30.1.76)
Sampling and methods of analysis *	77/535/EEC of 22.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 22.8.77)
	III/213/78-EN	Preliminary draft adapting 77/535/EEC to technical progress.
	79/138/EEC	Commission directive adapting 77/535/EEC to technical progress (*OJ* 14.2.79 L39)
Marketing of high nitrogen content ammonium nitrate based fertiliser	COM(75)635 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 23.1.76)
Marketing of liquid fertilisers	Work started but no papers yet received	
Gas pipelines		
Gas pipelines (construction)	18.871/III/69	Preliminary draft withdrawn with oil pipelines

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Fuels		
Problem of the lead content of petrol	COM(73)2050 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 31.1.74)
	78/611/EEC of 24.6.78	Directive (*OJ* 22.7.78)
Sulphur content of certain liquid fuels	75/716/EEC of 24.11.75	Directive (*OJ* 27.11.75)
Use of fuel-oils with aim of decreasing sulphurous emissions	COM(75)681 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 8.3.76)
	COM(77)407 FINAL	Commission amending proposal
Rubber and plastics		
Reinforced plastic tanks for carriage of dangerous substances by road	COM(71)1446 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 15.3.72) Proposal withdrawn
Construction materials		
Cement	Work in abeyance	
Ceramic tiles	Work in abeyance	
Flat glass	XI/437/74	Preliminary draft
	III/1417/77-EN	Preliminary draft
PVC pipes	Work in abeyance	
Fire resistance	XI/790/75 Rev 2	Preliminary draft
	III/1202/77-EN	Preliminary draft
Water supply equipment	Work was proposed by the tripartite working group but the project was shelved	
Construction products (Framework directive)	III/1098/77-EN	Preliminary draft
	III/1098/77-E Rev 1	Preliminary draft
	III/613/78-E	Draft council resolution on product priorities
	III/1098/77-F Rev 2	Further preliminary draft
	COM(78)449 FINAL	Commission final proposal
Safety of glass products intended for use in buildings	III/1438/77-EN	Preliminary draft
Building and civil engineering equipment and machines		
General directive		
Determination of the noise produced by construction plant and equipment (alteration in title) *	79/113/EEC of 19.12.78	Directive (*OJ* 8.2.79 L33)
Permissible sound level for pneumatic concrete-breakers and jackhammers	COM(74)2195 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.4.75)
Permissible sound emission level for tower cranes	COM(75)558 FINAL	Commission proposal
Permissible sound of grass cutting machines *	XI/28/75 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
	III/1584/77-EN	Preliminary draft
	COM(78)387 FINAL	Commission final proposal
Permissible sound emission level for current generators for welding Permissible sound emission level for current generators for power supply	COM(75)558 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 8.3.76)
Noise emitted by air compressors	ENV/168/77 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
	COM(78)121 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 19.4.78 C94)
Permissible sound emission level for dozers, loaders and excavators	ENV/487/78	Preliminary draft
	ENV/488/78	Preliminary draft
(Site safety)		
Roll-over protective structures	XI/554/75	Preliminary draft
Falling-object protective structures	XI/555/75	Preliminary draft
Dimensions of operators' cabins	XI/556/75	Preliminary draft
Protecting guards and shields	XI/557/75	Preliminary draft
(Road safety)	Work started but no papers yet received	
Tower cranes: safety aspects	Work started but no papers yet received	
	COM(78)677 FINAL	Commission final proposal (*OJ* 29.1.79 C25)
Mopeds		
Type approval	COM(72)1645 FINAL	Commission proposal
	COM(73)1732 FINAL	Commission amending proposal
Engines	Work started but no papers yet received	
Noise	Work started but no papers yet received	
Braking devices	XI/710/75	Preliminary draft
Motor cycles		
Type approval	COM(74)2177 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 20.2.75)
Permissible sound level and exhaust system	COM(75)634 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 8.3.76 C54) Directive adopted but not yet published
Fuel system integrity	XI/567/75	Preliminary draft
Non-military arms and ammunition	Work started but no papers yet received	
Firefighting equipment		
Portable fire extinguishers	Work started but no papers yet received	
Metal scaffolding		
Working metal scaffolds	XI/34/76	Preliminary draft suspended sine die
Packaging materials	Work not yet started	
Educational materials	Work not yet started	
Equipment using ionising rays	Work started but no papers yet received	
Protective clothing and equipment		
Protective helmets (industrial)	Work started but no papers yet received	
Safety helmets for motor vehicle drivers and their passengers	XI/227/75	Preliminary draft
Respiratory protective devices	Work started but no papers yet received	
Industrial safety belts and harnesses	Work started but no papers yet received	
Eye protectors	Work started but no papers yet received	
Protective footwear	Work started but no papers yet received	
Boats and their fittings		
Type approval	COM(76)393 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 24.8.76)
Pleasure craft made of reinforced plastic	XI/592/74	Preliminary draft
Cosmetics		
Cosmetic products	76/768/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Toys		
Safety requirements	XI/288/74	Preliminary draft
Noise emitted by domestic appliances	ENV/45/78-FR	Preliminary draft

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* Preliminary draft technical progress adaptation.

Food-law harmonisation directives

Inquiries: Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Great Westminster House, Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AE. Room and telephone numbers as follows: **food:** Room 514, tel. 01-216 6420; **additives:** Room 556, tel. 01-216 6114; **materials etc:** Room 555, tel. 01-216 7277.

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Food		
Cocoa and chocolate products	73/241/EEC of 24.7.73	Directive (*OJ* 16.8.73)
	74/411/EEC of 1.8.74	Amending directive (*OJ* 12.8.74)
	74/644/EEC of 19.12.74	Amending directive (*OJ* 28.12.74)
	75/155/EEC of 4.3.75	Amending directive (*OJ* 11.3.75)
	76/628/EEC of 20.7.76	Amending directive (*OJ* 16.8.76)
	4198/VI/76	Prelimary draft
	III/970/77	Preliminary draft
	COM(77)658 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 10.1.78)
	78/609/EEC of 29.6. 78	Amending directive (*OJ* 22.7.78)
	COM(78)333 FINAL	Commission proposal
	78/842/EEC of 10.10.78	Amending directive (*OJ* 17.10.78)
Erucic acid levels in food	76/621/EEC of 20.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 28.7.76)
Certain sugars	73/437/EEC of 11.12.73	Directive (*OJ* 27.12.73)
	III/797/77	Preliminary draft
Certain partly or wholly dehydrated preserved milk	76/118/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (*OJ* 30.1.76)
	COM(77)155 FINAL	Commision proposal (*OJ* 25.5.77)
Honey	74/409/EEC of 22.7.74	Directive (*OJ* 12.8.74)
Fruit juices and similar products	75/726/EEC of 17.11.75	Directive (*OJ* 1.12.75)
	COM(78)332 FINAL	Commission proposal
Natural mineral waters	COM(70)441 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 11.6.70)
Foodstuffs for particular nutritional uses	77/94/EEC of 21.12.76	Directive (*OJ* 31.1.77)
Jams, marmalades, fruit jellies	COM(75)419 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 4.9.75)
Coffee extracts and chicory extracts	77/436/EEC of 27.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 12.7.77)
Labelling, presentation and advertising of foodstuffs	79/112/EEC of 18.12.78	Directive (*OJ* 8.2.79)
Tomato products		
tomato concentrates	1821/VI/76	Preliminary draft
preserved tomatoes	1822/VI/76	Preliminary draft
Processing and handling of quick frozen foods	III/576/77	Preliminary draft
Casein and caseinates	COM(79)9 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 24.2.79)

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Food *continued*		
Food additives		
Acids, bases and salts	2607/VI/76	Preliminary draft
Antioxidants	70/357/EEC of 13.7.70	Directive (*OJ* 18.7.70)
	74/412/EEC of 12.8.74	Amending directive (*OJ* 12.8.74)
	78/143/EEC of 30.1.78	Amending directive (*OJ* 15.2.78)
	111/21/78	Preliminary draft
	78/664/EEC of 25.7.78	Directive on specific criteria of purity for antioxidants (*OJ* 14.8.78)
Colouring matters	2645 of 23.10.62	Directive (*OJ* 11.11.62)
	65/469/EEC of 25.10.65	Amending directives (*OJ* 26.10.65)
	67/653/EEC of 24.10.67	Amending directive (*OJ* 30.10.67)
	68/419/EEC of 20.12.68	Amending directive (*OJ* 24.12.68)
	70/358/EEC of 13.7.70	Amending directive (*OJ* 18.7.70)
	76/399/EEC of 6.4.76	Amending directive (*OJ* 26.4.76)
	76/144/EEC of EEC of 30.1.78	Amending directive (*OJ* 15.2.78)
	III/218/78	Preliminary draft
Emulsifiers, stabilisers, thickeners and gelling agents	74/329/EEC of 18.6.74	Directive (*OJ* 12.7.74)
	78/612/EEC of 29.6.78	Amending directive (*OJ* 22.7.78)
	III/218/78	
	COM(79)184 FINAL	Commission proposal
	78/663/EEC of 25.7.78	Directive on specific criteria of purity (*OJ* 14.8.78)
Flavourings	III/129/79	Preliminary draft
Preservatives	64/54/EEC of 5.11.63	Directive (*OJ* 27.1.64)
	65/569/EEC of 23.12.65	Amending directive (*OJ* 28.12.65)
	66/722/EEC of 14.12.66	Amending directive (*OJ* 20.12.66)
	67/427/EEC of 27.6.67	Amending directive (*OJ* 11.7.67)
	68/420/EEC of 20.12.68	Amending directive (*OJ* 24.12.68)
	70/359/EEC of 13.7.70	Amending directive (*OJ* 18.7.70)
	71/160/EEC of 30.3.71)	Amending directive (*OJ* 17.4.71)
	72/2/EEC of 20.12.71	Amending directive (*OJ* 4.1.72)
	72/444/EEC of 26.12.72	Amending directive (*OJ* 31.12.72)
	74/62/EEC of 17.12.73	Amending directive (*OJ* 11.2.74)
	74/394/EEC of 22.7.74	Amending directive (*OJ* 30.7.74)
	76/462/EEC of 4.5.76	Amending directive (*OJ* 14.5.76)
	76/629/EEC of 20.7.76	Amending directive (*OJ* 16.8.76)
	78/145/EEC of 30.1.78	Amending directive (*OJ* 15.2.78)
	79/40/EEC of 18.12.78	Amending directive (*OJ* 19.1.79)
	zcom(78)488 final	Commission proposal
	III/218/78	Preliminary draft
	65/66/EEC of 26.1.65	Directive on specific criteria of purity for preservatives (*OJ* 9.2.65)
	67/428/EEC of 27.6.67	Amending directive on purity criteria (*OJ* 11.7.67)
	76/463/EEC of of 4.5.76	Amending directive on purity criteria (*OJ* 14.5.76)
Starches	III/973/77	Preliminary draft
Solvents	2373/VI/76	Preliminary draft
Materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs		
General directive	76/893/EEC of 23.11.76	Directive (*OJ* 9.12.76)
Materials and articles in glass intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	687/VI/73	Preliminary draft
	2637/VI/75	Further preliminary draft
Materials and articles in stainless steel intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	688/VI/73	Preliminary draft
Materials and articles in ceramics intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	COM(74)2173 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 27.2.75)
Materials and articles in plastics intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	3003/VI/74	Preliminary draft
	4235/VI/75	
	980/VI/77	
	COM(78)115 FINAL	Commission proposal
Methods of analysis for verifying the overall limit of migration into simulants by constituents of plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	1521/III/78	Preliminary draft
Materials and articles which contain vinyl chloride monomer and are intended to come into Commission proposal	COM(76)680 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 21.1.77)
	78/142/EEC of 30.1.78	Directive (*OJ* 15.2.78) and corrigendum (*OJ* 15.3.78)
Materials and articles in regenerated cellulose film intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	2642/VI/76	Preliminary draft

Consumer protection

The proposals listed in the table are not themselves new, but relate to general directives dealing with aspects of consumer protection.

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Approximation of the laws of member states on liability for defective products	COM(76)372 FINAL 23.7.76	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.10.76)
Consumer protection in respect of contracts negotiated away from business premises	COM(76)544 FINAL 12.1.77	Commission proposal (*OJ* 29.1.77)
	COM(78)2 FINAL 12.1.78	Amending commission proposal
Protection of participants in home study courses	COM(77)404 FINAL 29.7.77	Commission proposal (*OJ* 31.8.77)
	COM(78)372 FINAL 26.7.78	Amending commission proposal

Inquiries: Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, Fair Trading Division, Room 1902, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1, tel. 01-211 5132.

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Standard terms in consumer contracts	ENV/384/76 August 1976	Preliminary draft
Misleading and unfair advertising	COM(77)724 FINAL 22.2.78	Commission proposal (*OJ* 21.3.78)
Consumer credit	COM(79) 69 FINAL 23.2.79	Commission proposal (not yet published)
Price display harmonisation	III/755/78	Preliminary draft
	III/775/78 Rev 1 4.10.78	Amended preliminary draft

In addition, there is a commission proposal for a directive on the unit pricing of foodstuffs, COM (77)171 FINAL: 24.5.77 – *OJ* 14.7.77, and COM(78)215 FINAL: 25.5.78 which has been put forward under article 235 of the treaty of Rome.

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Statistics

Economic indicators at a glance
Trade and Industry's new weekly feature, 'Economic indicators at a glance' begins this week on page 236.

The economy: selected indicators[1]

Series are seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
				of which			of which					
			Total	Manufacturing industry	Distributive and service industries excl. shipping	Total	Manufacturing industry	Wholesalers'	Retailers'	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1975 prices		at 1975 prices			at 1975 prices				at current prices		
Base of index	1975											
Series in		£ million	£ million			£ million				£ million		
Stock level at end-1977						34,469	19,995	4,540	3,181			
1973	103.3	65 586	21 609	3 504	4 [illegible]74	2 983	1 336	432	624	−999	−2 383	1 384
1974	101.4	64 212	21 175	3 822	4 605	1 462	1 288	361	−180	−3 591	−5 235	1 644
1975	100.0	63 385	20 488	3 522	3 841	−1 625	−1 221	−249	−100	−1 843	−3 236	1 393
1976	102.9	63 540	20 395	3 345	3 926	260	316	131	13	−1 137	−3 601	2 464
1977	104.9	62 954	19 961	3 573	4 325	978	442	266	29	298	−1 744	2 042
1978	108.1	66 397	20 514	3 848	4 681	962	595	−15	333	254	−1 175	1 429
1976 3rd qtr	103.3	15 934	5 177	849	1 005	163	99	81	46	−411	−1 136	725
4th qtr	104.2	16 007	4 955	856	1 014	259	260	17	27	−315	−966	651
1977 1st qtr	103.8	15 622	4 821	851	1 030	430	235	82	117	−428	−946	518
2nd qtr	104.5	15 551	5 010	879	1 044	293	97	179	4	−297	−779	482
3rd qtr	105.0	15 876	5 057	910	1 103	−70	−6	−80	−59	522	−3	525
4th qtr	106.5	15 905	5 073	932	1 149	325	116	85	−33	501	−16	517
1978 1st qtr	105.9	16 296	5 151	923	1 162	291	38	81	62	−341	−596	255
2nd qtr	108.4	16 487	5 161	963	1 173	280	272	−62	128	146	−173	319
3rd qtr	109.2	16 858	5 147	981	1 161	302	175	45	54	51	−367	418
4th qtr	108.8	16 756	5 055	982	1 184	89	111	−79	89	398	−39	437
1979 1st qtr		16 850										
% change last 2 qtrs on prev. 2 qtrs.	+1.7	+0.7	−1.1	+4.1	+0.4							
on a year earlier	+3.1	+4.4	+0.7	+6.6	+4.1							

	Industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and earnings					Labour (UK)			Visible trade (volume)	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Retail prices		Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry		Average gross earnings of all employees (GB, all industries and services covered)	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students		Unfilled vacancies for adults	Export	Import
				monthly averages		% increase on a year earlier	basic materials and fuel used	manufactured products: home sales		mid-month count	% of total employees	mid-month count	On a balance of payment basis	
	at 1975 prices		at 1971 prices		(not seasonally adjusted)				(old series)				at 1975 prices	
Base of index	1975	1975	1971		Jan. 1974		1975	1975	Jan. 1970				1975	1975
£m in base year			16,296										19,463	22,699
Series in				thousands						thousands		thousands		
1973	109.5	108.4	110.3	137.1	93.5	9.1	58.8	66.7	152.1	611.0	2.6	307.0	97.7	108.8
1974	105.1	106.5	109.0	102.8	108.5	16.0	86.8	81.8	179.1	599.7[2]	2.6[2]	302.7[2]	104.2	109.7
1975	100.0	100.0	106.7	97.2	134.8	24.2	100.0	100.0	226.6	929.0	3.9	150.0[2]	100.0	100.0
1976	102.0	101.4	106.5	104.7	157.1	16.5	127.0	117.3	261.9	1 269.8[2]	5.4[2]	120.4[2]	109.7	105.6
1977	105.8	102.8	103.6	107.1	182.0	15.8	145.6	140.5	288.5	1 378.1	5.8	155.6[2]	118.9	107.2
1978	109.7	103.6	109.2	129.9	197.1	8.3	144.6	153.3	330.2	1 375.6	5.8	210.3	122.9	112.6
1977 1st qtr	105.6	103.9	103.3	102	174.1	16.5	144.8	133.0	280.0	1 329.5	5.6	. .	115.9	108.8
2nd qtr	105.5	102.4	102.4	104	181.9	17.4	148.8	139.6	285.3	1 340.6	5.6	157.7	117.7	110.6
3rd qtr	106.2	103.0	104.2	110	184.7	16.5	146.5	143.8	288.3	1 414.6	5.9	151.9	124.6	107.3
4th qtr	105.8	101.8	104.7	113	187.4	13.1	142.2	145.8	300.4	1 427.8	6.0	160.1	117.3	102.3
1978 1st qtr	107.0	102.2	106.4	128	190.6	9.5	140.2	149.2	310.9	1 409.4	5.9	187.7	119.6	113.5
2nd qtr	110.8	104.5	107.9	133	195.8	7.7	146.3	151.8	327.8	1 372.7	5.7	210.3	122.2	109.7
3rd qtr	111.5	105.1	110.7	133	199.2	7.8	144.9	154.8	335.7	1 380.5	5.8	213.0	124.8	114.9
4th qtr	109.7	102.5	111.7	127	202.6	8.1	147.1	157.3	346.4	1 339.7	5.6	230.3	124.8	112.3
1979 1st qtr			110.3	131	208.9	9.6	152.1 p	161.6 p		1 350.7	5.7	234.6		
1978 Apr	111.1	105.1	106.9	130	194.6	7.9	145.1	150.9	324.1	1 387.1	5.8	203.7	124.3	104.8
May	110.1	103.5	108.2	127	195.7	7.7	146.8	151.9	326.2	1 366.4	5.7	209.9	120.5	113.3
Jun	111.1	105.0	108.6	142	197.2	7.4	147.0	152.7	333.0	1 364.7	5.7	217.4	121.9	111.1
Jul	111.6	105.0	111.0	111	198.1	7.8	145.8	153.8	333.2	1 371.4	5.7	211.0	125.7	114.3
Aug	112.1	105.8	111.7	142	199.4	8.0	144.2	154.8	334.7	1 392.1	5.8	209.3	124.5	111.3
Sep	110.7	104.3	109.6	144	200.2	7.8	144.8	155.7	339.2	1 378.3	5.8	218.7	124.3	119.1
Oct	108.5	101.7	110.2	133	201.1	7.8	145.7	156.6	344.5	1 359.6	5.7	228.4	125.9	110.8
Nov	109.5	102.4	110.5	126	202.5	8.1	147.3	157.1	344.5	1 338.8	5.6	231.3	122.5	113.7
Dec	111.2	103.5	113.8	121	204.2	8.4	148.3	158.3	350.1	1 320.7	5.5	231.2	126.0	112.5
1979 Jan	103.0 p	93.4 p	109.6	121	207.2	9.3	150.8	160.0	344.7	1 339.1	5.6	235.9	113.1	107.3
Feb	110.4 p	103.8 p	110.4	117	208.9	9.6	152.0	161.7	355.4	1 362.5	5.7	230.9		
Mar			110.8	156	210.6	9.8	153.3 p	163.1 p		1 350.4	5.7	237.0		
Apr							157.6 p	165.3 p		1 310.9 p	5.5	249.7 p		
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	−1.3	−2.5	−1.3	+3.7	+3.1		+3.7	+3.1	+2.1	+0.5		+2.7	−3½	−2
on a year earlier	+1.2	−2.0	+3.7	+2.3	+9.6		+8.7	+8.9	+13.9	−4.1		+22.4	+5	+5½

p Provisional. e Estimate.

[1] Including figures published on or before 10 May 1979.

[2] Average of available months.

Inquiries: 01-215 3453

Retail sales in March

Volume

The final seasonally adjusted index of the volume of retail sales in March is 110.8 (1971 = 100), close to the provisional estimate of 110½ (announced on 18 April).

The estimate suggests that trade in both food and non-food shops in March returned to around the level of last autumn following three months when retail sales appear to have been influenced by special factors. In December sales appear to have been boosted by the tax free bonus for pensioners and the backdated reduction in income tax. In January and February sales were affected by the lorry drivers' dispute and also by bad weather.

In the first quarter the volume of retail sales was 1½ per cent lower than in the fourth quarter of last year.

The volume of sales by clothing and footwear shops in the first quarter was 3 per cent lower than in the fourth quarter of last year. Sales by durable goods shops and by 'other non-food' shops, which include department stores and mail order businesses, both fell by 2 per cent. Sales by food shops rose by 1 per cent between these periods.

Value

Based on non-seasonally adjusted data, the value of total retail sales in March was 13 per cent higher than in March 1978. In the first quarter of 1979, the average value of sales was 13 per cent higher than in the corresponding period of 1978.

Inquiries: Department of Trade, Economics and Statistics Division 6c, Room 351, Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB, tel. 01-215 3705.

Notes

The indices for all shops, food shops, and total non-food shops are shown to the first decimal place to help interpretation, but should not be regarded as necessarily accurate to the final digit. The best indication of the recent trend is normally obtained by comparing the average index for the latest three months with the average for the immediately preceding three months, but month-to-month fluctuations may sometimes make it preferable to average two months or four months.

When using the volume figures, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with revaluation of the value series to constant prices become more acute. Thus, the relative accuracy with which volume changes have been measured is likely to have been reduced in recent periods.

The monthly periods consist of four weeks except those marked [1] which are of five weeks. The March 1979 sales period was the five weeks from 25 February 1979 to 31 March 1979. The corresponding period in 1978 was the five weeks from 26 February 1978 to 1 April 1978.

The value estimates are compiled inclusive of VAT, and will, therefore, reflect changes in the rates of VAT. The volume estimates, however, are not affected by these changes since the retail price indices used to 'deflate' the value data are themselves inclusive of VAT.

Within the total, sales are analysed by 'kinds of business'; ie the statistics are of sales by particular kinds of shop rather than of sales of particular commodities. For example, while sales by shops classified as food shops are mainly of food, many of them also sell other goods. Similarly, some food is sold by shops classified to other kinds of business.

The seasonally adjusted series include, where appropriate, adjustments for the timing of holidays and adjustments to make allowance for the inclusion of an extra week in the January 1975 trading period. No adjustments are made to the non-seasonally adjusted data.

The article giving the provisional estimate of the seasonally adjusted index of the volume of retail sales for April and the increase in value of sales compared with a year earlier will be published later this month.

Table 1 **Volume of retail sales seasonally adjusted**

Index numbers of sales per week (average 1971 prices) 1971 = 100

(Sales in 1971 – £ million Final estimates)	All kinds of business (16 296)	Food shops (6 866)	Non-food shops Total (9 430)	Clothing and footwear shops (2 436)	Durable goods shops (1 897)	Other non-food shops [2] (5 097)
1971	100.0	100.0	100.0	100	100	100
1972	105.3	101.6	107.9	104	113	108
1973	110.3	101.6	116.6	108	127	117
1974	109.0	102.4	113.8	106	122	115
1975	106.7	100.0	111.5	106	119	111
1976	106.5	98.7	112.1	106	122	111
1977	103.6	94.8	110.0	105	119	109
1978	109.2	98.0	117.4	114	130	114
1977						
1st qtr	103.3	94.9	109.4	105	115	109
2nd	102.4	94.4	108.1	101	118	108
3rd	104.2	94.3	111.3	107	121	110
4th	104.7	95.6	111.3	109	122	109
1978						
1st qtr	106.4	96.6	113.6	111	124	111
2nd	107.9	97.8	115.3	111	129	113
3rd	110.7	98.1	119.9	117	134	116
4th	111.7	99.4	120.6	119	134	116
1979						
1st qr	110.3	99.9	117.8	116	131	114
1978						
March [1]	107.2	97.5	114.2	116	118	112
April	106.9	96.6	114.5	108	130	112
May	108.2	98.3	115.4	113	127	112
June [1]	108.6	98.3	116.0	111	130	113
July	111.0	98.2	120.4	116	137	116
August	111.7	97.8	121.8	121	133	118
September [1]	109.6	98.2	118.0	115	133	114
October	110.2	98.3	118.8	115	132	116
November	110.5	98.6	119.2	115	132	116
December [1]	113.8	100.9	123.2	126	137	117
1979						
January	109.6	103.6	113.9	109	127	111
February	110.4	97.0	120.2	117	137	116
March [1]	110.8	99.3	119.1	120	129	115
1978						
October-December	111.7	99.4	120.6	119	134	116
1979						
January-March	110.3	99.9	117.8	116	131	114
Percentage increase	−1.3	0.5	−2.3	−3	−2	−2

[1] Five-week period.

[2] Including department stores and mail-order businesses.

Table 2 **Value of retail sales seasonally adjusted**

Index numbers of value of sales per week (current prices) 1971 = 100

(Sales in 1971 – £ million Final estimates)	All kinds of business (16 296)	Food shops (6 866)	Non-food shops Total (9 430)	Clothing and footwear shops (2 436)	Durable goods shops (1 897)	Other non-food shops [2] (5 097)
1971	100.0	100.0	100.0	100	100	100
1972	112.0	109.0	114.2	112	118	114
1973	126.9	123.0	129.8	128	136	128
1974	146.7	144.9	148.1	148	144	149
1975	174.4	175.0	174.0	171	168	178
1976	200.1	204.8	196.7	189	187	204
1977	228.0	234.7	223.1	216	206	233
1978	260.1	261.8	258.8	255	244	266
1977						
1st qtr	216.7	224.2	211.2	205	192	221
2nd	222.0	230.4	215.9	204	201	227
3rd	233.7	238.8	230.0	223	213	240
4th	239.6	245.5	235.2	231	220	243
1978						
1st qtr	246.4	249.8	243.8	239	228	252
2nd	254.4	258.4	251.4	244	241	259
3rd	266.6	266.0	267.1	264	253	274
4th	273.0	273.1	273.0	272	255	280
1979						
1st qr	276.4	282.8	271.8	269	253	280
1978						
March [1]	250.1	253.6	247.6	250	220	257
April	249.8	252.4	247.8	236	241	256
May	255.2	259.9	251.7	248	237	259
June [1]	257.4	261.9	254.1	246	244	262
July	265.0	264.5	265.3	260	255	272
August	269.2	265.7	271.9	273	252	279
September [1]	265.9	267.4	264.8	260	252	272
October	267.9	268.1	267.8	262	250	277
November	269.7	270.8	268.9	262	251	279
December [1]	279.8	278.9	280.4	289	262	283
1979						
January	273.1	291.3	259.9	254	241	270
February	275.4	274.6	275.9	271	262	283
March [1]	279.8	282.5	277.9	280	256	285
1978						
October-December	273.0	273.1	273.0	272	255	280
1979						
January-March	276.4	282.8	271.8	269	253	280
Percentage increase	1.2	3.6	−0.4	−1	−1	—

[1] Five-week period.

[2] Including department stores and mail-order businesses.

Hire purchase and other instalment credit business in March

Finance houses, other consumer credit grantors and retailers advanced £530 million of new credit in March, of which £207 million was lending by retailers (table 1). These figures allow for seasonal factors, as do all figures in the article unless otherwise stated.

Total advances in the first quarter of 1979 were 1 per cent higher than in the fourth quarter of 1978. Lending by finance houses and other consumer credit grantors decreased by 3 per cent between the two quarters. Lending by retailers increased by 6 per cent.

Finance houses and other consumer credit grantors advanced £323 million of new fixed-sum credit in March (table 2). Within this total, £198 million was advanced under regulated consumer credit agreements and £125 million under other credit agreements. Lending to individuals under regulated agreements decreased by 2 per cent during the first quarter of 1979 compared to the fourth quarter of 1978. Lending under other credit agreements (mainly lending to companies) decreased by 3 per cent.

The average weekly value of credit sales by retailers in March was lower than in January or February (table 3). In the first quarter of 1979, average credit sales were 4 per cent higher than in the fourth quarter of 1978. Within this total, sales by durable goods shops increased by 7 per cent, sales by department stores increased by 2 per cent and sales by other credit retailers (mainly mail-order business) increased by 4 per cent.

The debt outstanding to finance houses, other consumer credit grantors and retailers increased by £108 million in March, bringing the total increase in the first quarter of 1979 to £354 million, compared to £347 million in the fourth quarter of 1978 (table 1). Amounts outstanding to finance houses and other consumer credit grantors increased by £258 million and those to retailers by £96 million during the quarter. 57 per cent of the increase in debt outstanding to finance houses and other consumer credit grantors related to regulated fixed-sum credit agreements (table 2).

At the end of March, the total amount outstanding to finance houses, other consumer credit grantors and retailers was £6,427 million (not seasonally adjusted), 27 per cent more than a year earlier (table 1). Within this total, £4,764 million was outstanding to finance houses and other consumer credit grantors on fixed-sum credit agreements and £237 million on running-account agreements (table 2). £1,426 million was outstanding to retailers.

Inquiries: Department of Trade, Economics and Statistics Division 6a, Room 349, Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB, tel. 01-215 3162.

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Table 1 Hire purchase and other credit business, seasonally adjusted [1]

£ million

	Total		Finance houses and other consumer credit grantors [2]		Retailers[3]	
	New credit extended	Change in debt	New credit extended	Change in debt	New credit extended	Change in debt
1976	3 688		1 835		1 853	141
1977	4 644	1 006	2 552	881	2 092	125
1978	5 998	1 561	3 563	1 370	2 435	191
1977						
2nd qtr	1 102	224	596	205	506	19
3rd	1 203	267	657	228	546	39
4th	1 278	274	736	262	542	12
1978						
1st qtr	1 374	403	809	337	565	66
2nd	1 506	443	901	383	605	60
3rd	1 542	368	895	308	647	60
4th	1 576	347	958	342	618	5
1979						
1st qtr	1 586	354	934	258	652	96
1978						
July	490	96	270	79	220	17
August	536	155	321	128	215	27
September	516	117	304	101	212	16
October	508	112	306	101	202	11
November	561	157	344	147	217	10
December	507	78	308	94	199	−16
1979						
January	525	119	300	73	225	46
February	531	127	311	98	220	29
March	530	108	323	87	207	21
1978						
Oct-Dec	1 576	347	958	342	618	5
1979						
Jan-Mar	1 586	354	939	258	652	96
Percentage increase	1		−3		6	

[1] Excluding charges. [2] Direct business only: ie excluding agreements block discounted with finance houses by retailers. [3] Durable goods shops, department stores and 'other credit retailers'. For further definitions see footnotes to table 2.

Table 3 Retailers' credit sales, seasonally adjusted

Index numbers of value of sales per week (current prices)

1971 = 100

(HP and other credit sales in 1971 £ million[3])	Total[1]	Durable goods shops	Department stores	Other credit retailers[2]
	(1130)	(370)	(139)	(621)
1976	190	136	162	229
1977	217	142	171	272
1978	257	169	204	320
1977				
2nd qtr	210	136	153	266
3rd	227	148	179	284
4th	227	148	184	283
1978				
1st qtr	237	167	183	291
2nd	254	171	199	315
3rd	272	174	219	342
4th	264	166	214	334
1979				
1st qtr	275	177	219	346
1978				
July	275	178	231	343
August	271	174	205	344
September [4]	270	170	221	340
October	258	162	205	327
November	274	166	227	349
December [4]	260	168	211	326
1979				
January	281	181	229	352
February	277	168	226	353
March [4]	268	179	205	335
1978				
Oct-Dec av.	264	166	214	334
1979				
Jan-Mar av.	275	177	219	346
Percentage Increase	*4*	*7*	*2*	*4*

[1] Durable good shops, department stores (including co-operative societies) and 'other credit retailers'. [2] General stores (other than department stores) and general mail-order houses. [3] Excluding sales against checks issued by other organisations. [4] The monthly periods for retailers consists of four weeks except those marked [4] which are of five weeks. The period covered by March 1979 sales was the five weeks from 25 February 1979 to 31 March 1979. The corresponding period in 1978 was from 26 February 1978 to 1 April 1978.

Table 2 Finance houses and other consumer credit grantors' business [1]

£ million

	Seasonally adjusted				Unadjusted	
	Regulated fixed sum credit agreements [2]		Other [3]		Total debt outstanding at end of period	
	New credit extended [4]	Change in debt	New credit extended [4]	Change in debt	Fixed-sum agreements [4]	Running-account agreements[4]
1976					2 601	163
1977					3 391	183
1978	2 138	924	1 425	446	4 574	230
1977						
2nd qtr	368	146	228	59	2 957	170
3rd	403	156	254	72	3 223	175
4th	445	175	291	87	3 391	183
1978						
1st qtr	494	228	315	109	3 654	191
2nd	548	262	353	121	4 062	198
3rd	543	222	352	86	4 367	188
4th	553	212	405	130	4 574	230
1979						
1st qtr	542	146	392	112	4 764	237
1978						
July	163	63	107	16	4 136	203
August	193	92	128	36	4 281	198
September	187	67	117	34	4 367	188
October	177	65	129	36	4 483	199
November	192	84	152	63	4 574	206
December	184	63	124	31	4 574	230
1979						
January	163	31	137	42	4 585	234
February	181	52	130	46	4 655	240
March	198	63	125	24	4 764	237
1978						
Oct-Dec	553	212	405	130	4 574	230
1979						
Jan-Mar	542	146	392	112	4 764	237
Percentage increase	−2		−3			

[1] Including check traders. [2] All consumer credit agreements regulated under the Consumer Credit Act 1974. These comprise non-exempt agreements involving the provision of credit not exceeding £5,000 to individuals. [3] Including all credit agreements entered into with companies by businesses which also enter into credit agreements with individuals. All agreements entered into before 1 April 1977 are included as well as those for more than £5,000 with individuals which have been entered into since 1 April 1977. [4] Including all types of credit agreement where the total amount of credit advanced is known at the outset of the arrangement. It includes credit advanced in a hire purchase, conditional sale or credit sale agreement as well as trading checks, vouchers and cash loans of a fixed amount. [5] Including credit advanced on a revolving basis, overdrafts, non-bank credit cards. Figures for periods between end 1976 and July 1978 are estimated.

Index of industrial production for Wales: fourth quarter 1978

In the final quarter of 1978, the index of industrial production for Wales is provisionally estimated on a seasonally adjusted basis to have increased by 2 per cent over the third quarter; and the level reached was 5 per cent higher than a year earlier. Taking the year 1978 as a whole, output as recorded by the index was 1½ per cent higher than in 1977.

The increase over the previous quarter was due to improvements in manufacturing and construction activity. There was a small fall in mining and quarrying output and a rather larger one in the utilities sector (gas, electricity and water). Manufacturing output rose by 3 per cent: the largest contributor to this rise was the ferrous metals industry, where a recovery from the very low levels of the previous quarter was experienced; but increases were also registered by food, drink and tobacco, coal and petroleum products, chemicals, non-ferrous metals and paper, printing and publishing. The performance of the engineering sector, where output fell by 5 per cent over the quarter was affected by industrial relations problems in the vehicles industry. If the final quarter of 1978 is compared with the corresponding quarter of the previous year, a similar pattern emerges; an all-industries increase of 5 per cent resulting from an increase of 6 per cent by manufacturing industry and 7 per cent by construction, though mining and quarrying output also rose over the year as a whole. The improvement in manufacturing industry resulted from major improvements in food, drink and tobacco, coal and petroleum products, metal manufacturing, paper and printing, building materials and timber industries; while poorer performance by the engineering sector as a whole was chiefly influenced by difficulties in the vehicles industry.

If the year 1978 is compared with 1977 as a whole, an increase of 1½ per cent in the all-industries index is mainly attributable to a rise of nearly 2 per cent in manufacturing output, though construction and the utilities also registered small increases. Among the manufacturing sectors food, drink and tobacco, coal and petroleum products, chemicals, building materials and paper, printing and publishing registered major gains: on a year-on-year basis the ferrous metals and engineering industries recorded only small improvements. The market sector analysis shows that the major year-on-year advance was made by the consumer goods groups.

Inquiries: 0222 42661 ext. 41.

Table 1 **Index of industrial production for Wales**[1]

Seasonally adjusted 1975 = 100

Market sector	1975 weights per thousand	Annual indices		Quarterly indices 1977		1978				Percentage change over previous	
		1977	1978	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr[2]	Qtr	Year
Total: all industries	1 000	103.8	105.4	106.5	101.5	102.0	108.1	104.6	106.8	2	5
Mining and quarrying	102	86	84	86	84	79	83	88	87	−1	4
Total: all manufacturing industries	620	106.8	108.8	109.7	104.0	105.6	111.9	107.1	110.6	3	6
Food, drink and tobacco	38	111	126	110	114	123	122	126	132	5	16
Coal and petroleum products	27	89	95	88	87	90	93	97	99	2	14
Chemicals and allied industries	59	132	133	134	129	130	133	132	138	4	7
Metal manufacture: total	161	106	105	116	98	101	114	95	111	16	14
Ferrous	129	107	107	120	99	104	118	95	113	19	14
Non-ferrous	32	101	97	99	91	91	97	96	103	7	14
Engineering and allied industries: total	190	105	106	106	104	104	110	108	103	−5	−2
Mechanical and instrument engineering	56	116	116	121	117	115	118	115	116	1	−1
Electrical engineering	54	91	97	91	89	90	97	101	99	−2	11
Vehicles (including aircraft and ships)	44	117	116	119	119	117	122	124[3]	102	−17	−14
Metal goods not elsewhere specified	37	92	93	90	89	92	102	88	88	—	−1
Textiles, leather and clothing	45	90	94	92	89	94	92	95	94	−1	5
Bricks, pottery, glass, cement, etc	21	109	117	109	110	108	115	121	123	1	11
Timber, furniture etc	17	91	95	89	88	95	98	96	90	−6	2
Paper, printing and publishing	26	102	109	98	107	95	111	110	119	7	11
Other manufacturing industries	35	120	112	119	113	113	112	112	110	−1	−2
Construction	182	96	98	99	95	92	100	98	102	4	7
Gas, electricity and water	96	118	119	121	116	121	125	118	113	−4	−3

[1] Revisions to the series (going back to the start of the previous year) are normally made each quarter to take account both of more recent information and improved seasonal adjustment factors. [2] Provisional. [3] The index number for this industry has been revised significantly owing to an amendment to the basic data by the Business Statistics Office.

Source: Welsh Office.

Table 1a **United Kingdom – key components**

Total: all industries	1 000	105.8	109.7	106.2	105.8	107.0	110.8	111.5	109.7	−2	4
Mining and quarrying	41	188	234	190	196	210	230	237	258	9	32
Total: all manufacturing industries	697	102.8	103.6	103.0	101.8	102.2	104.5	105.1	102.5	−2	1
Construction	182	98	105	99	101	102	107	107	105	−2	4
Gas, electricity and water	80	107	110	108	106	108	112	113	107	−5	2

Source: Central Statistical Office.

Table 2 **Index of industrial production for Wales: market sector analysis**[1]

Seasonally adjusted 1975 = 100

Market sector	1975[2] weights per thousand	Annual indices		Quarterly indices 1977		1978				Percentage change over previous	
		1977	1978	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr[3]	Qtr	Year
Consumer goods sector	145	103.7	109.8	104.0	104.8	108.0	109.4	110.7	111.1	—	6
Intermediate goods sector	570	105.6	105.6	109.3	101.1	102.3	109.3	104.1	106.5	2	5
Investment goods sector	103	107.0	109.8	110.8	109.4	110.2	112.0	108.6	108.2	—	−1

[1] See footnote [1] of table 1. [2] The construction industry (weight 182) is excluded from this analysis. [3] Provisional.

Source: Welsh Office.

Table 2a **United Kingdom index**

Consumer goods sector	243	104.6	106.6	104.2	104.7	105.2	108.0	108.0	105.3	−3	1
Intermediate goods sector	349	115.4	121.3	116.4	114.3	116.3	122.4	123.2	123.4	—	9
Investment goods sector	218	97.9	98.3	98.3	97.4	98.8	98.1	99.7	96.7	−3	−1

Source: Central Statistical Office.

Acquisitions and mergers of industrial and commercial companies: first quarter

The number of industrial and commercial companies acquired in the first quarter of 1979 fell from the high level of the two previous quarters, while expenditure on acquisitions was the lowest since the fourth quarter of 1977. There were no mergers this quarter and expenditure on acquisitions of independent companies rose slightly from the low level of the previous quarter; sales of subsidiaries, at £59 million, were only a little below the high level of the previous quarter.

Table 1 shows that, as reported in the financial press, 134 companies were acquired for £240 million in the quarter compared with 158 companies acquired for £285 million in the previous quarter. The chart, which illustrates the level of acquisition activity over the last nine years, shows that, after falling sharply in early 1974 and fluctuating at a relatively low level during 1975 and 1976, acquisitions activity has since tended to rise, though it remains much lower than the historically high levels of 1972 and 1973.

The largest acquisition in the first quarter of 1979 was that of Westinghouse Brake and Signal acquired by Hawker Siddeley for £40.4 million. There were four other acquisitions for amounts of over £10 million during the quarter: Leisure Caravan Parks acquired by Rank Organisation for £19.9 million, Stanley Gibbons International acquired by Letraset International for £18.7 million, British Relay Wireless and Television acquired by Electronic Rentals for £13.8 million (excluding the cost of purchase of certain rental assets by a subsidiary of Electronic Rentals) and LCP Homecentres acquired by W H Smith & Son (Holdings) for £12.0 million.

Table 2 shows that as usual most acquisitions during the quarter were for relatively small amounts. The 22 largest acquisitions, 16 per cent of the total number, which were acquired for amounts over £2 million, accounted for 74 per cent of the total expenditure. The average cost of acquisitions in the quarter was £1.8 million, much the same as in the previous quarter but somewhat below the average for 1978 as a whole.

Table 3 shows that between the fourth quarter of 1978 and the first quarter of 1979 the proportion of total expenditure on acquisitions in the form of cash rose from 71 per cent to 82

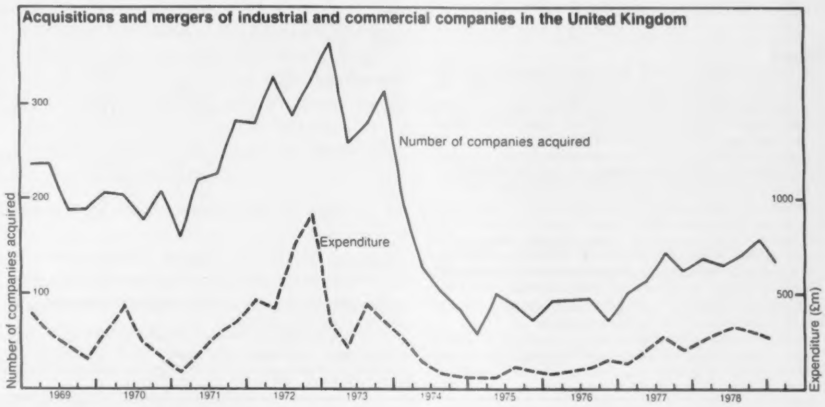
Acquisitions and mergers of industrial and commercial companies in the United Kingdom

Table 1 Acquisitions and mergers within the United Kingdom

	Total all acquisitions and mergers [1]			Acquisitions of independent companies and mergers									Sales of subsidiaries between company groups		
				Total			Acquisitions of independent companies			Mergers [2]					
	Number acquiring	Number acquired	Value £m	Number acquiring	Number acquired	Value £m	Number acquiring	Number acquired	Value £m	Number acquiring	Number acquired	Value £m	Number acquiring	Number acquired	Value £m
1969	686	846	1 068.9	595	744	969.2	593	742	961.6	2	2	7.6	91	102	99.7
1970	629	793	1 122.5	490	614	996.6	484	608	954.1	6	6	42.5	139	179	125.9
1971	687	884	911.1	498	620	745.6	498	620	745.6	—	—	—	189	264	165.5
1972	928	1 210	2 531.6	716	938	2 346.2	710	931	2 336.9	6	7	9.3	212	272	185.4
1973	929	1 205	1 304.3	724	951	1 057.5	722	949	1 055.2	2	2	2.3	205	254	246.8
1974	427	504	508.4	307	367	459.1	306	366	451.6	1	1	7.5	120	137	49.3
1975	276	315	290.8	180	200	221.0	177	197	215.1	3	3	5.9	96	115	69.8
1976	315	353	448.1	218	242	348.4	217	241	348.0	1	1	0.4	97	111	99.7
1977	427	481	823.8	333	372	730.3	331	370	700.7	2	2	29.6	94	109	93.5
1978	484	567	1 139.5	387	441	976.6	384	438	926.3	3	3	50.3	107	126	162.9
1976															
1st qtr	82	93	71.3	62	71	65.3	61	70	64.9	1	1	0.4	20	22	6.0
2nd	81	93	93.3	49	55	44.3	49	55	44.3	—	—	—	32	38	49.0
3rd	86	95	117.4	55	60	85.6	55	60	85.6	—	—	—	31	35	31.8
4th	66	72	166.1	52	56	153.2	52	56	153.2	—	—	—	14	16	12.9
1977															
1st qtr	93	101	131.7	78	86	122.7	78	86	122.7	—	—	—	15	15	9.0
2nd	100	112	209.4	76	84	173.3	76	84	173.3	—	—	—	24	28	36.1
3rd	124	144	277.6	95	109	245.6	93	107	216.0	2	2	29.6	29	35	32.0
4th	110	124	205.1	84	93	188.7	84	93	188.7	—	—	—	26	31	16.4
1978															
1st qtr	113	137	241.4	92	106	205.5	92	106	205.5	—	—	—	24	31	35.9
2nd	115	131	297.5	86	98	255.2	86	98	255.2	—	—	—	30	33	42.3
3rd	119	141	315.7	99	114	299.1	97	112	290.4	2	2	8.7	22	27	16.6
4th	137	158	284.9	110	123	216.8	109	122	175.2	1	1	41.6	31	35	68.1
1979															
1st qtr	112	134	239.7	80	95	180.8	80	95	180.8	—	—	—	34	39	58.9

[1] The number of acquiring companies may be less than the sum of the components because some companies acquire both independent and subsidiary companies. [2] A merger (which takes place when two companies combine to form a new company) is reckoned as the acquisition of the smaller company by the larger and is valued at the market value of the smaller company's share of the newly formed company.

Table 2 Size distribution of acquisitions within the United Kingdom

	1978		1978 1st quarter		1978 2nd quarter		1978 3rd quarter		1978 4th quarter		1979 1st quarter	
Expenditure £ million	Number acquired	Value £ million	Number acquired	Value £ million	Number acquired	Value £ million	Number acquired	Value £ million	Number acquired	Value £ million	Number acquired	Value £ million
Over 10	22	570.0	6	112.1	5	172.9	6	165.5	5	119.5	5	104.8
Over 5 and up to 10	20	139.2	6	41.8	5	35.2	6	42.2	3	20.0	6	39.6
Over 2 and up to 5	56	178.6	11	34.1	10	30.9	14	42.0	21	71.6	11	33.5
2 or less	469	251.7	114	53.4	111	58.5	115	66.0	129	73.8	112	61.8
Total	567	1 139.5	137	241.4	131	297.5	141	315.7	158	284.9	134	239.7

per cent and that in the form of ordinary shares fell from 28 per cent to 18 per cent. The percentage in issues of fixed interest securities was the lowest since the second quarter of 1978.

Tables 1, 2 and 3 are taken from a more detailed analysis published in Business Monitor MQ 7, 'Acquisitions and mergers of industrial and commercial companies' (obtainable from HMSO each quarter for an annual subscription of £1.95). The Business Monitor also contains tables analysing acquisitions and mergers by industry.

Inquiries: Economics and Statistics Division 6a, Departments of Industry, Trade and Prices and Consumer Protection, Room 166, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 5538.

Table 3 **Categories of expenditure on acquisitions and mergers within the United Kingdom**

	Expenditure (£ million)				Percentage of expenditure		
	Total	Cash	Issues of ordinary shares	Issues of fixed interest securities	Cash	Issues of ordinary shares	Issues of fixed interest securities
1969	1 069	296	552	221	27.7	51.6	20.7
1970	1 122	251	596	275	22.4	53.1	24.5
1971	911	285	437	189	31.3	48.0	20.7
1972	2 532	493	1 459	580	19.5	57.6	22.9
1973	1 304	691	466	147	53.0	35.7	11.3
1974	508	347	114	47	68.3	22.4	9.3
1975	291	173	93	25	59.4	32.0	8.6
1976	448	321	120	7	71.7	26.8	1.5
1977	824	512	304	8	62.1	36.9	1.0
1978	1 140	654	463	23	57.4	40.6	2.0
1976							
1st qtr	71.3	37.9	32.6	0.8	53.2	45.7	1.1
2nd	93.3	83.1	9.5	0.7	89.1	10.2	0.7
3rd	117.4	88.4	28.5	0.5	75.3	24.3	0.4
4th	166.1	111.4	49.8	4.9	67.1	30.0	2.9
1977							
1st qtr	131.7	91.4	40.2	0.1	69.4	30.5	0.1
2nd	209.4	117.5	87.8	4.1	56.1	41.9	2.0
3rd	277.6	153.4	121.0	3.2	55.2	43.6	1.2
4th	205.1	148.8	55.4	0.9	72.6	27.0	0.4
1978							
1st qtr	241.4	148.4	86.3	6.7	61.5	35.7	2.8
2nd	297.5	130.1	166.9	0.5	43.7	56.1	0.2
3rd	315.7	174.2	130.1	11.4	55.2	41.2	3.6
4th	284.9	201.2	79.3	4.4	70.6	27.8	1.6
1979							
1st qtr	239.7	195.6	42.9	1.2	81.6	17.9	0.5

Notes

This analysis relates only to industrial and commercial companies in the United Kingdom and is based on reports in the financial press supplemented by special inquiries to companies to determine the form, value and timing of particular acquisitions. The Bank of England compiles an analysis of acquisitions and mergers relating to financial companies (banks, insurance companies, etc) which is published in *Financial Statistics*.

No method of valuing acquisitions is altogether free from objection. The values shown here relate in general to expenditure during the current period, excluding any previous investments in the company acquired. Where possible, the values are market values, ie the cash paid or the market price at date of issue of shares or loan stock issued. Where market values are not available (as in the case of unlisted securities) or the cash payment is not disclosed, acquisitions are in general valued at the net book value of the acquired company.

Where the acquired company was a subsidiary of another United Kingdom company, the transaction is classified as a sale between company groups. Acquisitions between subsidiaries of the same company group, in the course of internal reorganisation, have been ignored.

As far as possible, acquisitions are recorded at the date when the transaction is finalised (eg when a bid is declared unconditional). This date usually comes before the date on which the shares in the acquired company are surrendered, although it may be considerably later than the date when the bid is first announced in the press. Revisions to the data may occur from time to time if there are acquisitions and mergers which come to light after the publication of the article.

Wholesale price indices in April

Output prices

The provisional price index for the home sales of manufactured products increased by $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent between March and April to 165.3 (1975 = 100).

The index for manufactured products other than food, drink and tobacco was $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent higher than the March figure as a result of increases spread across most sectors, with higher prices for petroleum products again making the most significant contribution. This index rose 4 per cent in the latest three months.

Higher prices for animal feedingstuffs and chocolate confectionery accounted for more than half of the 1 per cent increase between March and April in the index for the food manufacturing industries. This index increased by 2 per cent in the latest three months.

The change in the index for all manufactured products measured over a 12-month period increased from $8\frac{3}{4}$ per cent to $9\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The increase in the index over the latest six months rose from $4\frac{3}{4}$ to $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Input prices

The provisional price index for materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry increased by $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent between March and April to 157.6 (1975 = 100). This index rose by $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent over the last 12 months.

The $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent monthly increase in the index for coal, gas and electricity was entirely due to higher prices for electricity.

The $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent monthly increase in the index for materials purchased by manufacturing industry other than the food, drink and tobacco industries was caused by the sharp increase in crude oil prices introduced on 1 April. Excluding crude oil the index fell by $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent: the prices of a number of commodities fell as a result of the appreciation of sterling.

The index for materials purchased by the food manufacturing industries increased by $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent between March and April. Higher prices for packaging products accounted for more than half of the increase.

1975 = 100

	Feb	Mar p	Apr p
Output prices (home sales)			
All manufactured products	161.7	163.1	165.3
Products of manufacturing industry other than food, drink and tobacco industries	160.1	161.8	164.4
Products of the food manufacuring industries	170.0	170.5	172.2
Prices of materials and fuel purchased			
By manufacturing industry	152.2	153.3	157.6
materials	151.8	152.7	157.0
coal, gas and electricity	153.0	155.8	159.9
By manufacturing industry other than food, drink and tobacco industries	146.9	148.1	154.3
materials	145.7	146.5	153.1
By food manufacturing industries	163.7	164.6	165.4
materials	163.9	164.7	165.5

p Provisional.

Inquiries: 01-215 3351.

Reserves fall in April after early repayments

UK official reserves fell by $480 million in April. During the month, $1,004 million was repaid early to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) by the government, and a further $81 million was repaid on schedule in respect of drawings on the IMF's oil facility. Accruals of public sector borrowing under the exchange cover scheme amounted to $71 million and repayments – including early repayments – to $141 million. At the end of April, the reserves stood at $21,467 million.

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ISBN 0 11 724992 0

Trends in sales of land and buildings, 1973–77

This article is based on a report by A. T. Dunn and G. C. White of the Inland Revenue in the March issue of *Economic Trends*. It gives detailed estimates of the sales of land and buildings in England and Wales in November 1977, based on a survey during that month, and comprehensive quarterly figures for all sales over £100,000 in England and Wales. Secondly, the article gives monthly and quarterly estimates of sales based upon stamp duty data. Thirdly, from the fourth quarter of 1976 it provides separate estimates for the total value of residential and non-residential sales. Fourthly, it provides some new information on leasehold property transactions – by length of tenure and range of rent. Finally, it provides some new estimates of the incidence of stamp duty by price range, by type of property and by sector of purchaser.

Broad trends

England and Wales

At current prices the value of sales of land and buildings in England and Wales, which had fallen from £12,000 million in 1973 to £10,000 million in 1974, rose in each of the subsequent years and in 1978 approached £19,000 million (table 1 and chart 3). Much of this increase will have reflected increases in house prices and this is discussed further in the section on the results of the surveys of conveyancing.

Table 2 provides separate estimates for transactions in residential and non-residential properties since the fourth quarter of 1976. These estimates use information available from the comprehensive statistics of transactions over £100,000. Prior to the fourth quarter of 1976 it is only possible to use the results of the surveys of conveyancing which are discussed below. These show a very high value of sales in non-residential property at the end of 1973 and a big fall-off in 1974 and 1975. This was followed by an increase in 1976 and a substantial increase in 1977. The statistics of transactions over £100,000 are available from the fourth quarter of 1976 and relate very largely to non-residential property of which they constitute about two-thirds in value. They suggest a similar uplift in 1978.

Scotland and Northern Ireland

For these countries, figures are only available for transactions over £15,000. Annual figures are shown in table 3 and chart 4.

The figures for the three countries show different trends. In England and Wales, after a sharp fall between 1973 and 1974, there was a gradual recovery so that the value of sales in 1978 was almost twice that in 1973. By contrast, the value of sales in Scotland in 1978 was about four times that in 1973 and for Northern Ireland the increase was almost five fold.

It should be emphasised that the rises in these series reflect not only increases in the value of transactions over £15,000 but also the upward movement of properties from lower ranges due to price increases.

Results of 1977 conveyancing survey

A survey was conducted during one week of November 1977 and the results grossed up, using stamp duty data, to provide estimates for England and Wales for that month in the same way as for the survey in November 1976. Table 4 gives a broad comparison of the latest estimates with previous ones, by broad price range and type of property.

The value of residential sales rose between each of the survey months although the number of transactions was more variable – falling between October 1973 and October 1974 and rising subsequently (chart 1).

The interpretation of the figures of the sales of non-residential property is more difficult as it comprises a great variety of types of property, such as agricultural land, residential building land, offices, factories, shops, etc., and because a large proportion of the value of this property lies within relatively few transactions over £100,000. The value of non-residential sales fell sharply between October 1973 and October 1974 and did not approach the levels of the former month until November 1977.

Regional analysis

The numbers and values of sales of residential and non-residential property in England and Wales analysed by standard region are shown in table 5. Between November 1976 and November 1977 there was an increase in both

Table 1 **Sales of land and buildings in England and Wales, by broad price range**

		£ thousand million			
		Below £15,000	£15,000 to £30,000	Above £30,000	Total
1973		5·72			11·92
1974		5·25			9·93
1975		7·27	2·73	2·27	12·27
1976		6·83	3·44	3·14	13·41
1977		7·03	4·09	3·65	14·76
1978		6·76	6·39	5·84	18·99
1977	*1*	1·54	0·75	0·67	2·95
	2	1·77	0·91	0·77	3·45
	3	1·88	1·15	1·00	4·03
	4	1·84	1·28	1·21	4·32
1978	*1*	1·76	1·23	1·30	4·28
	2	1·80	1·51	1·28	4·59
	3	1·70	1·72	1·49	4·90
	4	1·50	1·93	1·78	5·21

Source: Stamp duty data
Statistics of numbers of conveyances

Note: Components may not add precisely to totals because of rounding. The figures for the fourth quarter of 1978 are provisional.

Table 2 **Sales of land and buildings in England and Wales, by type of property**

		£ thousand million		
		Residential	Non-residential	Total
1977		12·15	2·61	14·76
1978		15·25	3·74	18·99
1976	*4*	2·90	0·64	3·54
1977	*1*	2·42	0·53	2·95
	2	2·85	0·60	3·45
	3	3·35	0·68	4·03
	4	3·53	0·80	4·32
1978	*1*	3·47	0·81	4·28
	2	3·75	0·84	4·59
	3	4·01	0·89	4·90
	4	4·02	1·19	5·21

Source: Survey and stamp duty data
Statistics of numbers of conveyances

Note: Components may not add precisely to totals because of rounding. The figures for the 4th quarter of 1978 are provisional.

Table 3 **Sales of land and buildings in the United Kingdom: transactions over £15,000**

	£ thousand million			
	England and Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
1973	6·20	0·24	0·03	6·47
1974	4·68	0·32	0·05	5·04
1975	5·00	0·32	0·05	5·37
1976	6·58	0·49	0·08	7·15
1977	7·74	0·63	0·11	8·48
1978	12·23	0·92	0·17	13·32

Source: Stamp duty data

Note: Components may not add precisely to totals because of rounding. The figures for 1978 include provisional data for the fourth quarter.

Chart 1 **Sales of land and buildings in England and Wales**

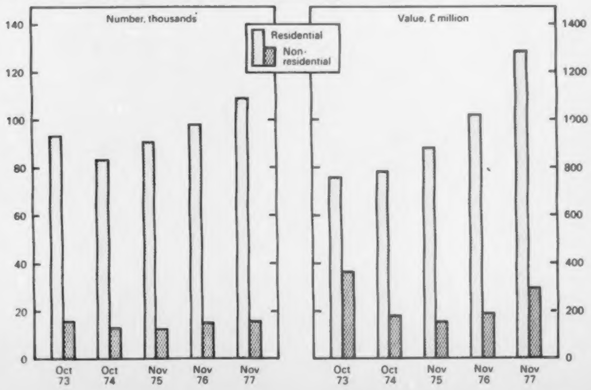
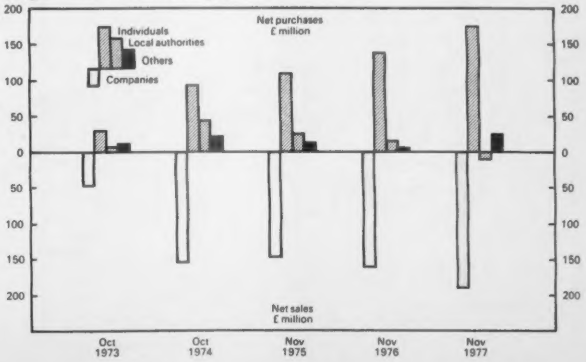


Chart 2 **Net sales and purchases of land and buildings in England and Wales, by sector**



the number and value of transactions in residential property in each of the standard regions. For non-residential property there was an increase in value in each standard region except the north west and for several regions the increase was quite striking. However, the movement in the value of sales since 1973 was not consistent throughout the country. In the north west and west Midlands, the value of sales in November 1977 was only one third of that in October 1973 and for the south west and east Anglia the corresponding figure was one half, whereas in the south east and greater London the value of sales was about one third higher than in October 1973.

Analysis by sector of seller and purchaser

Sales and purchases by sector are shown in table 6 and chart 2.

As might be expected, individuals were net purchasers of residential property in each of the survey months. Sales between individuals constituted 60 per cent of total sales in October 1973, rose to 73 per cent in October 1974 and were nearly 80 per cent in November 1976 and November 1977. On the other hand net sales of non-residential property by individuals were small except in October 1973, at which time activity in non-residential property was at a high level.

Property companies are generally expected to make substantial net sales of residential property, and these attained a high level in November 1977. A very large proportion of their sales was to individuals and they also continued to make net sales of non-residential property.

As in previous survey months other companies maintained a rough balance between sales and purchases.

Local authorities made net purchases of non-residential property, as in previous survey months, but, in contrast, net sales of residential property.

Analysis of large cases in England and Wales

When these surveys were introduced it was felt that whilst they provided reasonably accurate indications of trends in residential property in the lower price ranges, they could not be expected to cover adequately the much more variable field of non-residential property nor the highest price ranges. A comprehensive coverage of all cases over £500,000 was therefore initiated in the second quarter of 1974 and in the fourth quarter of 1976 this was extended to all cases over £100,000.

Quarterly figures are shown in table 7. No such figures were available before the second quarter of 1974, but from other estimates it can be deduced that large transactions were at a high level at the end of 1973 and fell in 1974 and 1975. 1976 showed some signs of a recovery which was maintained in 1977 and 1978.

Transactions in leasehold property

By number approximately 20 per cent of residential sales and 30 per cent of commercial sales relate to leasehold properties. In this section we provide new analyses of these leasehold properties – analysing the rent, the number of years to run on the lease and whether the lease was new or already existed. It should be noted that the survey is based on particulars delivered (PD) and that there is no requirement to complete a PD for a sale where the lease is for less than seven years.

Most residential leasehold property sales

Table 4 Sales of land and buildings in England and Wales, by type of property and broad price range

Broad price range— lower limit (£ thousand)	Survey month	Number (thousands)			Value (£ million)		
		Residential[1]	Non-residential	Total	Residential[1]	Non-residential	Total
0–	Oct 1973	82	13	94	495	32	527
	Oct 1974	73	11	84	527	28	555
	Nov 1975	76	11	86	567	29	595
	Nov 1976	81	13	94	637	31	668
	Nov 1977	84	13	97	681	34	715
15–	Oct 1973	11	2·5	14	252	86	338
	Oct 1974	11	1·5	12	240	59	298
	Nov 1975	15[2]	1·7	16[2]	312[2]	54	366[2]
	Nov 1976	17	1·6	19	379	58	437
	Nov 1977	26	2·2	28	590	81	672
100–	Oct 1973	0·14	1·0	1	13	247	260
	Oct 1974	0·07	0·3	0·4	20	93	114
	Nov 1975	[2]	0·3	0·3[2]	[2]	74	74[2]
	Nov 1976	0·03	0·3	0·3	5	105	110
	Nov 1977	0·07	0·4	0·5	14	181	195
Total	Oct 1973	93	16	109	760	365	1,125
	Oct 1974	84	13	97	786	180	967
	Nov 1975	90	13	103	879	156	1,035
	Nov 1976	98	15	113	1,021	194	1,214
	Nov 1977	109	16	125	1,286	296	1,582

Note: Components may not add precisely to totals because of rounding.

Source: Survey data

[1] Including multiple transactions.

[2] Two price ranges for residential property have been combined to preserve confidentiality.

Table 5 Sales of land and buildings in England and Wales, by type of property and standard region

	Residential[1]					Non-residential					All properties				
Standard region	Oct 1973	Oct 1974	Nov 1975	Nov 1976	Nov 1977	Oct 1973	Oct 1974	Nov 1975	Nov 1976	Nov 1977	Oct 1973	Oct 1974	Nov 1975	Nov 1976	Nov 1977
	Number (thousand)														
North	5·2	4·6	5	4·7	5·0	0·7	0·7	0·4	0·5	0·7	5·9	5·3	4·9	5·2	5·7
Yorkshire and Humberside	8·5	7·7	9·7	9·3	10·2	1·2	1·2	1·3	1·2	1·3	9·7	8·8	11·0	10·5	11·5
East Midlands	6·5	5·8	6·7	8·0	8·4	1·4	1·4	1·3	1·6	1·5	7·9	7·2	8·0	9·6	10·0
East Anglia	3·2	2·6	3·0	3·0	3·4	1·0	0·7	0·6	0·8	0·9	4·2	3·2	3·6	3·9	4·3
South East[2]	17·3	18·4	21·4	21·2	24·6	3·1	2·8	3·1	3·5	3·8	20·4	21·2	24·5	24·7	28·4
Greater London	13·0	12·2	12·3	13·5	14·6	1·7	1·4	1·1	1·5	2·0	14·6	13·7	13·4	15·0	16·6
South West	8·7	5·9	6·7	9·3	10·8	2·2	1·5	1·4	2·0	1·9	10·8	7·4	8·1	11·3	12·7
West Midlands	10·1	8·5	8·7	10·2	11·5	1·7	1·3	1·3	1·6	1·6	11·8	9·8	10·1	11·8	13·1
North West	15·0	13·0	13·1	13·8	15·7	1·8	0·9	1·1	1·4	1·3	16·8	14·0	14·2	15·2	17·0
Wales	5·4	4·9	4·4	5·1	5·1	1·3	1·0	0·8	1·0	1·1	6·7	5·9	5·2	6·0	6·2
England and Wales	92·9	83·5	90·4	98·0	109·4	16·1	13·8	12·6	15·1	16·1	108·9	96·5	103·0	113·1	125·5
	Values (£ million)														
North	28·7	29·4	30·5	39·6	46·9	8·2	3·2	2·9	4·2	9·0	36·9	32·6	33·4	43·9	55·9
Yorkshire and Humberside	43·1	46·9	70·3	77·4	89·3	12·3	9·8	8·6	12·5	15·9	55·4	56·7	78·9	89·9	105·1
East Midlands	43·8	45·4	56·9	68·7	79·6	27·3	11·2	12·4	17·5	24·3	71·1	56·6	69·3	86·2	103·9
East Anglia	27·8	24·7	28·9	30·3	39·0	23·8	4·1	5·7	7·7	11·3	51·6	28·8	34·6	38·0	50·3
South East[2]	210·7	249·0	279·0	290·1	386·4	63·3	52·0	42·6	54·4	83·8	274·0	301·0	321·6	344·5	470·3
Greater London	137·9	152·0	143·7	164·4	219·9	52·2	52·0	38·6	39·4	72·6	190·1	204·0	182·3	203·8	292·5
South West	92·1	66·3	75·0	112·5	144·5	44·6	21·4	14·9	22·5	25·5	136·7	87·7	89·9	135·0	170·0
West Midlands	64·3	64·5	72·9	86·7	100·8	71·2	12·8	11·4	13·3	24·4	135·3	77·3	84·3	99·9	125·2
North West	79·9	74·1	90·1	107·0	128·0	47·7	6·3	10·7	16·8	15·4	127·6	80·4	100·8	123·7	143·4
Wales	31·6	33·8	31·5	44·2	51·8	14·4	7·5	8·6	5·3	13·4	46·0	41·4	40·1	49·6	65·2
England and Wales	759·9	786·2	878·8	1,020·9	1,286·2	364·7	180·4	156·3	193·6	295·7	1,124·6	966·6	1,035·1	1,214·5	1,581·9

Note: Components may not add precisely to totals because of rounding.

Source: Survey data

[1] Including multiple transactions

[2] Excluding Greater London

Table 6 Sales and purchases of land and buildings in England and Wales by sector

		£ million								
		Residential[1]			Non-residential			All properties		
Survey month	Sector	Sales	Purchases	Net sales	Sales	Purchases	Net sales	Sales	Purchases	Net sales
Oct 1973	Individuals	592	674	−82	145	92	53	737	766	−30
	Property Companies	99	33	66	70	100	−30	169	133	36
	Other Companies	5	8	−3	98	89	9	103	96	7
	Unclassified companies	34	20	14	27	35	−8	61	55	6
	Local authorities	12	15	−3	3	8	−6	15	23	−8
	Others[2]	18	10	8	22	41	−19	40	51	−11
	Total	760	760	—	365	365	—	1,125	1,125	—
Oct 1974	Individuals	610	710	−100	61	53	8	671	763	−92
	Property companies	157	18	139	52	28	24	209	46	163
	Other companies	5	5	—	36	30	6	41	35	6
	Unclassified companies	3	9	−6	2	6	−4	4	15	−11
	Local authorities	4	32	−28	3	20	−16	7	50	−43
	Others[2]	8	12	−4	27	44	−17	35	57	−22
	Total	786	786	—	180	180	—	967	967	—
Nov 1975	Individuals	718	833	−114	51	47	4	769	880	−110
	Property companies	131	13	118	42	26	16	173	39	134
	Other companies	6	5	1	27	23	4	33	27	6
	Unclassified companies	5	2	3	7	2	5	13	4	9
	Local authorities	5	17	−12	3	16	−13	8	33	−25
	Others[2]	13	9	4	27	43	−16	40	53	−13
	Total	879	879	—	156	156	—	1,035	1,035	—
Nov 1976	Individuals	829	974	−145	61	55	6	890	1,029	−138
	Property companies	145	17	128	65	35	30	210	52	158
	Other companies	9	6	3	27	29	−2	35	35	—
	Unclassified companies	13	5	8	5	10	−5	18	16	2
	Local authorities	10	14	−4	5	16	−12	14	30	−16
	Others[2]	15	5	11	31	48	−17	46	53	−7
	Total	1,021	1,021	—	194	194	—	1,214	1,214	—
Nov 1977	Individuals	1,048	1,236	−188	95	82	13	1,143	1,318	−175
	Property companies	162	21	142	93	56	37	256	77	179
	Other companies	13	7	6	51	51	—	64	57	7
	Unclassified companies	14	5	9	14	18	−4	28	23	5
	Local authorities	24	10	14	6	10	−4	30	20	10
	Others[2]	25	7	17	36	78	−43	61	86	−25
	Total	1,286	1,286	—	296	296	—	1,582	1,582	—

Note: Components may not add precisely to totals because of rounding.

Source: Survey data

[1] Including multiple transactions.

[2] Including central government, nationalised industries, banks and insurance companies.

were below £15,000 and as one would expect those properties with only a few years to run on the lease – generally older properties for which the lease has already run for several years – sell at a lower price (table 8). For example, over 80 per cent of sales where the lease has less than 35 years to run were for amounts less than £5,000. There will of course be sales of properties with leases for only a few years which fetch a substantial amount: for example if the lessee has the right to renew the lease or purchase the freehold. Where the lease has more than 35 years to run the price is higher and only about 20 per cent of the sales were be low £5,000. There are fewer sales of leasehold properties with new leases than with existing leases (only about 30 per cent of the sales were new leases), and the distribution of the number of years to run is slightly different. For new leases many of the sales had leases between 90 and 99 years.

For commercial leasehold properties, the majority of sales (about 80 per cent) were for properties having leases with less than 35 years to run (table 9). This compares with about 10 per cent for residential properties. Most of the sales of commercial properties (about 90 per cent) are for amounts less than £5,000 but rent must also be considered and where the sale price is low the rent is usually high. For residential property the rent is usually below £150 per annum for all ranges of sale price whereas for non-residential property it is usually above £150 per annum.

Another difference between commercial and residential leasehold sales is that for commercial properties there were more sales of properties with new leases than existing leases, reflecting the tendency for commercial leases to be of shorter duration. However, although commercial leasehold property sales have leases of a shorter length than residential leasehold property sales the rent is far greater (table 10 and 11). For residential property, about 95 per cent of the rents are less than £150 per annum for all ranges of sales price whereas only about 20 per cent of rents are below this figure. The pattern is similar for sales of new leasehold and existing leasehold property.

Incidence of stamp duty

The source of many of the estimates contained in this article is the figures of stamp duty receipts. Since May 1974, stamp duty has been payable on the consideration for sales of land and buildings above £15,000. The initial rate is 0.5 per cent, increasing to 2 per cent on sales above £30,000, and it is payable by the purchaser. Because of recent concern about stamp duty on purchases of land and buildings (especially residential property) this short section has been included.

Figures of the receipts of stamp duty are published annually in *Inland Revenue Statistics*. During the financial year 1977-78, £356 million was received from stamp duties in England and Wales. Of this about £135 million (40 per cent) was paid on the transfer of land and buildings. The surveys allow us to estimate how much was collected from residential sales and how much was paid by different types of purchaser.

In November 1977 about 80 per cent by value of sales of land and buildings related to residential property by only 60 per cent of the stamp duty on sales of land and buildings was in respect of residential property. This is

Table 7 **Sales of land and buildings in England and Wales: analysis of large cases**

	£ million						
	£500,000 and over			£100,000 and over			
	Residential[1] and land[2]	Commercial[3]	All properties	Residential[1]	Residential[1] and land[2]	Commercial[3]	All properties
1975	130	368	499				
1976	170	726	895				
1977	201	645	847	160	671	1,044	1,715
1977 *1*	48	141	189	34	145	226	370
2	37	165	203	35	154	258	413
3	40	168	208	33	133	273	407
4	76	171	247	57	238	286	525
1978 *1*	68	186	254	47	195	322	518
2	81	173	254	67	248	303	552
3	57	198	254	81	228	330	558

Note: Components may not add precisely to totals because of rounding.

Source: Statistics of large cases

[1] Including multiple transactions.
[2] Agricultural land with or without buildings, and other land without buildings.
[3] Including industrial property.

Table 8 **Sales of residential leasehold property in England and Wales, by broad price range and range of years to run on the lease. November 1977**

Range of consideration – lower limit (£ thousand)	Numbers								
	Existing leases				New leases				
	Range of years to run				Range of years to run				
	0–	35–	100+	Total	0–	35–	84–	100+	Total
0–	895	362	2,360	3,653	354	418	258	324	1,366
5–	113	1,103	2,332	3,598	—	29	958	632	1,633
10–	69	2,313	1,754	4,199	102		1,002	496	1,633
15–	29	755	708	1,527	86		349	209	644
30+	19	213	115	353	52		37	39	127
Total	1,125	4,746	7,269	13,330	383	658	2,604	1,700	5,403

Source: Survey data

Note: Where necessary, figures have been combined to preserve confidentiality. Totals include some cases where the years to run are not known.

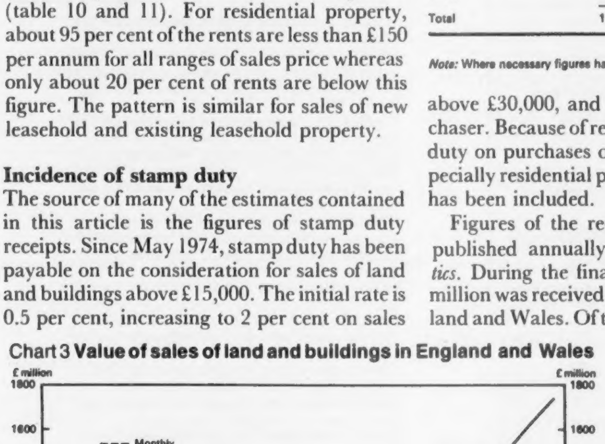
Table 9 **Sales of non-residential leasehold property in England Wales, by broad price range and range of years to run on the lease. November 1977**

Range of consideration– lower limit (£ thousand)	Numbers							
	Existing leases				New leases			
	Range of years to run				Range of years to run			
	0–	35–	100+	Total	0–	35–	100+	Total
0–	1,021	89	84	1,235	2,877	509	99	3,552
5–	227	23	32	287	25	29	—	54
10–	72	30		107				
15–	31	24		55	13	28	14	20
30–	55	38		103				24
100+	10	21	5	37				11
Total	1,416	188	158	1,824	2,915	566	113	3,661

Source: Survey data

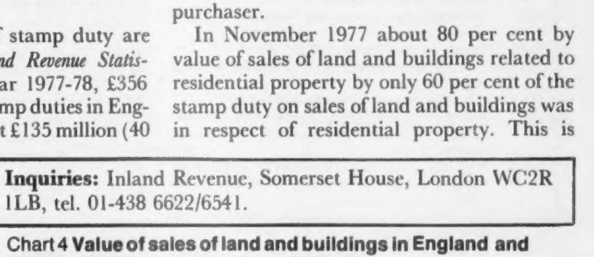
Note: Where necessary figures have been combined to preserve confidentiality. Totals include some cases where the years to run are not known.

Chart 3 **Value of sales of land and buildings in England and Wales**



Inquiries: Inland Revenue, Somerset House, London WC2R 1LB, tel. 01-438 6622/6541.

Chart 4 **Value of sales of land and buildings in England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland**



because only a small proportion of sales in the lower ranges is non-residential whilst a high proportion of sales in the higher ranges is non-residential.

The number of residential property sales below £15,000 (which from May 1974 generally bore no stamp duty) as a proportion of all sales of residential property has declined from 88 per cent in October 1973 to 77 per cent in November 1977 (table 4). In November 1977, 20 per cent (by number) of residential sales were between £15,000 and £30,000 and therefore attracted the reduced rate of stamp duty, and these accounted for 50 per cent of the stamp duty on residential property. The remaining 50 per cent of stamp duty on residential sales was from the 4 per cent of sales above £30,000. For non-residential property, sales above £30,000 were only about 10 per cent of the total number of sales, yet they accounted for 80 per cent of the total value of sales and for about 95 per cent of the stamp duty.

Individuals paid 64 per cent of all stamp duty collected on transfers of land and buildings. Of the remainder, property companies paid 10 per cent, financial companies (including banks and insurance companies) paid 12 per cent, other companies paid 11 per cent and local authorities paid 2 per cent.

Table 10 **Sales of residential leasehold property in England and Wales, by range of years to run on the lease and range of rent. November 1977**

Range of rent–lower limit (£)	Numbers								
	Existing leases				New leases				
	Range of years to run				Range of years to run				
	0–	35–	100+	Total	0–	35–	84–	100+	Total
0–	746	801	4,672	6,274	56		127	358	546
10–	127	3,773	2,388	6,379	187	591	2,429	1,304	4,558
150+	206	107	28	353	174	28	37	20	264
Total	1,125	4,746	7,269	13,330	382	659	2,604	1,700	5,404

Source: Survey data

Note: Where necessary figures have been combined to preserve confidentiality. Totals include some cases where the rent or years to run are not known.

Table 11 **Sales of non-residential leasehold property in England and Wales, by range of years to run on the lease and range of rent. November 1977**

Range of rent–lower limit (£)	Numbers							
	Existing leases				New leases			
	Range of years to run				Range of years to run			
	0–	35–	100+	Total	0–	35–	100+	Total
0–	38	47	108	196	75	168	58	310
10–	57	60	42	161	95	241	49	390
150–	567	30		614	561	51		623
1,000+	697	39		767	2,181	114		2,333
Total	1,416	188	158	1,824	2,915	568	113	3,661

Source: Survey data

Note: Where necessary, figures have been combined to preserve confidentiality. Totals include some cases where the rent or years to run are not known.

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1168753 Matsushita Electric Industrial Co Ltd
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1177408 Matsushita Electric Industrial Co Ltd
Storage battery
1198007 Matsushita Electric Industrial Co Ltd
Magnetic recording and reproducing apparatus
1226671 Matsushita Electric Industrial Co Ltd
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Tape reel and tape reel storing magazine
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1367347 Matsushita Electric Industrial Co Ltd
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Convergence system for a colour television receiver
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1399523 Matsushita Electric Industrial Co Ltd
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1400169 Matsushita Electric Industrial Co Ltd
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I. J. G. Davis, Comptroller

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BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
BRITISH					
Agatha	BR/E 40021/5/5/84	105	2 May	Columbia-EMI-Warner Distributors Ltd	Warner Bros Productions Ltd
Lifespan	BR/E 40023/5/5/84	37	3 May	ITC Film Distributors Ltd	Associates Film Productions Ltd
Mad Dogs And Cricketers	BR/E 40027/5/5/84	31	4 May	Rank Film Distributors Ltd	DN Productions Ltd
Le Petomane	BR/E 40028/5/5/84	33	4 May	Cinema International Corporation (UK)	Legionnaire Films Ltd
Movietone News 2604	BR/E 39845/5/5/84	8	4 May	British Movietonews Ltd	British Movietonews Ltd
FOREIGN					
Deathsport	F 40020	82	2 May	New World Pictures Ltd	New World Pictures Inc. California
Movie, Movie	F 40022	105	3 May	ITC Film Distributors Ltd	Marble Arch Productions Inc. California
Butch And Sundance The Early Days	F 40024	111	3 May	Twentieth Century Fox Film Co Ltd	Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation, California
Death Game	F 40025	87	3 May	Brent Walker Film Distributors Ltd	First American Film, California
Foes	F 40026	90	3 May	Brent Walker Film Distributors Ltd	Coats Alexander Coats Inc, California

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ISBN 0 11 725640 4
ISSN 0006-5323